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THE ERA

ESTABLISHED 1837.

WIRES: "The Era," London. 'Phone: 4546 and 4547 Regent.

Publishing Offices: 35, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C. 2.

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VOL. 81. No. 4,136. REGISTERED AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE AS A NEWSPAPER. WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1917. PRICE THREEPENCE.

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THE THEATRE GOERS' GUIDE

List of West End Theatres open, with address, 'phone number, current attraction, and time of starting the performance.

ADELPHI (Strand).—"The Boy," 8. Wed., Sat., 2. Gerr. 2645.

AMBASSADORS (West-st., Shaftesbury-avenue).—"The Wonder Tales," 2.30 and 8. Gerr. 4460.

APOLLO (Shaftesbury-avenue). — "Inside the Lines," 2.30 and 8.15. Gerr. 3243.

COMEDY (Panton-street). — "Bubbly," 2.15 and 8.15. Gerr. 3724.

COURT (Sloane-square).—"The Prodigy," 2.30 and 8.16. Gerr. 848.

CRITERION (Piccadilly-circus). — "A Little Bit of Fluff," 2.30 and 8.30. Regent 3365 and Gerr. 3844.

DALY'S (Leicester-square).—"The Maid of the Mountains," 2 and 8. Gerr. 202.

DRURY LANE (Catherine-st., W.C.).—"Aladdin," 1.30 and 7.30. Gerr. 2588.

DUKE OF YORK'S (St. Martin's-lane).—"The Thirteenth Chair," 8.30. Thurs., Fri., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 314.

GAIETY (Strand).—"The Beauty Spot," 8. Sat. 2. Gerr. 2780.

GARRICK (Charing Cross-road). — "The Saving Grace," 2.30 and 8.30. Gerr. 9513.

GLOBE (Shaftesbury-avenue). — "The Willow Tree," 2.30 and 8.30. Gerr. 8722.

HAYMARKET (Haymarket).—"General Post," 2.30 and 8.30. Regent 6030.

HIS MAJESTY'S (Haymarket).—"Chu Chin Chow," 2.15 and 8. Gerr. 1777.

KINGSWAY (Gt. Queen-street).—"When Knights Were Bold," 2.30 and 8.15. Gerr. 4032.

LYCEUM (Wellington-street).—"Seven Days' Leave," 2.30 and 7.45. Gerr. 7617-8.

LYRIC (Shaftesbury-avenue). — "Romance," 8.15. Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3687.

NEW (St. Martin's-lane).—"Peter Pan," 2. Thurs., Sat., 8. Regent 4466.

OXFORD (Oxford-street).—"The Better 'Ole," 2.30 and 8. Gerr. 3934.

PALACE (Shaftesbury-avenue). — "Pamela," 8. Wed., Sat., 2.

PLAYHOUSE (Charing Cross).—"The Yellow Ticket," 8.30. Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3970.

PRINCE'S (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"Carminetta," 2.30 and 8. Gerr. 7482.

QUEEN'S (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"Brewster's Millions," 8.30. "A Kiss for Cinderella," 2.30. Gerr. 9437.

ROYALTY (Dean-street). — "Billeted," 2.30. Sat., 8.15. Gerr. 3855.

ST. JAMES'S (King-st., S.W.).—"Charley's Aunt," 2.30 and 8. Gerr. 3903.

SAVOY (Savoy-court, Strand, W.C.).—"Alice in Wonderland," 2.30. "Private Secretary," 8.

SHAFTESBURY (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"Arlette," 2 and 8. Gerr. 6666.

STRAND (Aldwych).—"Wild Heather," 8.30. "The Happy Family," 2.30. Gerr. 3830.

VAUDEVILLE (Strand). — "Cheep," 2.15 and 8.15. Gerr. 3815.

WYNDHAM'S (Charing Cross-road).—"Dear Brutus," 2.30 and 8.30. Regent 3028.

VARIETY THEATRES.

ALHAMBRA (Leicester-square). — "Round the Map," 8.15. "Bluebell in Fairyland," 2.15.

COLISEUM (Charing Cross). — Marguerite Scialtiel, Ching Wu, Grock, Coram, Elsie Spain and Randall Jackson, Lockhart's Elephants, 2.30 and 8. Gerr. 7541.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).—"Here and There," 8.30. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3527.

LONDON HIPPODROME (Cranbourn-st.).—"Zig-Zag," 2.30 and 8.30. Gerr. 650.

LONDON PAVILION (Piccadilly-circus). —"Any Old Thing," 2.15 and 8.15. Gerr. 3886.

PALLADIUM (Argyll-street, W.).—Wilkie Bard, Neil Kenyon, Bransby Williams, Hetty King, Amy Evans, Vernon Watson, Gregory Troupe, Beesie Clifford, Sam Barton, 2.30, 6.10, and 9. Gerr. 1004.

M. Jan Oyra, who dances with Mlle. Regine Flory in "The Beauty Spot," is about to open a school for dancing, and has taken commodious premises in Great Ormond-street, Bloomsbury. His partner in the venture will be M. Jean Castaner, who dances with Miss Betty Blake in "The Boy."

Mr. H. Agar Lyons has been re-engaged by Mr. Walter Howard for the part of Lord Arthur in "Seven Days' Leave" White Company.

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FIRST NIGHTS OF THE WEEK.

"THE BEAUTY SPOT."

Adapted by Arthur Anderson from the French of P. L. Flers, Lyrics by Clifford Harris and Valentine, Additional Lyrics by Arthur Anderson, Music by Jas. W. Tate, Produced at the Gaiety on Saturday, Dec. 22.

Paul Prince ..... Mr. Tom Walls
Benjy Cardigan ..... Mr. Douglas McLaren
Napoleon Bramble ..... Mr. Arthur Whitby
Kinema Manager.. Mr. Wilbur Lenton
The Spirit of Hashish.. Mr. Jan Oy-ra
Schamyl ..... Mr. Claude Cameron
Josephine Bramble.. Miss Maisie Gay
Leonie Bramble ..... Miss Moya Mannering
Bunny Chester.. Miss Peggy Kurton
Troika ..... Miss Jean Cadell
Kadouja ..... Mlle. Regine Flory
Parlourmaids, Typists, Kinema Actresses, Mannequins.

What splendid sparkle and spirit there is about the new Gaiety production! How pretty the chorus girls are, how harmonious their movements, what charming dresses they wear, and how well they wear

Photo., Foulsham and Banfield.
MISS MADGE TITHERADGE.

them! How bewitching are the two principals, Moya Mannering and Peggy Kurton, but what a pity Moya has so little to do. How wonderful Regine Flory is in her dancing, her singing, her acting! What magnetism, what allure! Why don't the comedians get more laughs? Something missing here. Is that fine actor, Arthur Whitby, quite the right man for the Gaiety? There is talent in Tom Walls, but he is a sympathetic actor, and his part—a gentleman sponger—is repellant. How perfectly Jean Cadell adapts herself. Maisie Gay is in tip-top form and magnificently at home with her audience, but the humour wants a lot of working up.

These surface reflections floated idly through my mind as I sat in the Gaiety Theatre last Saturday night watching the first performance of "The Beauty Spot." The plot is the usual peg, quite strong enough for its purpose, on which is hung musical numbers, harmonious melodies by Mr. Jas. W. Tate, dainty lyrics by Messrs. Harris, Valentine, and Anderson, written separately and conjointly—much frothy verbiage, palatable if not exciting, and beautiful and remarkable dancing from Mlle. Regine Flory and M. Jan. Oy-ra. It was the dancing, particularly "The Hashish Dream," that roused the house, the frenzied abandon, never lacking grace, with which the intoxicating Regine as the Victim whirled and twirled in and out of the embrace of Oy-ra as the Spirit of Hashish, who caught her by the ankles or the wrists or the neck, and flung her madly about until I gasped with relief when the end came and I saw that she was still whole.

Briefly the plot is as follows:—Napoleon Bramble has published a book of travels, "The Beauty Spot," written by a dead friend, as his own, and it has brought him money and fame. The nephew of the author, discovering the imposture, seeks revenge by passing himself off as a character in the book, a native of Baluchistan. Bramble is further blackmailed by Paul Prince, a man about town, to whom he has confessed his secret. In the end Bramble is forgiven, three sets of lovers make up their little differences, and Mrs. Bramble (Miss Maisie Gay) descends from dreams of queening it in Baluchistan, and decides in a capital song that she "will make the old man do."

Miss Maisie Gay is responsible for most of the humour, and she won my profound admiration for her jollity and her unfailing high spirits. Her "joddling" duet with Schamyl (played very pleasantly by Mr. Claude Cameron at short notice in place of Mr. Tom McNaughton) is one of the hits of the piece. Miss Moya Mannering as Bramble's daughter has too few chances, but makes the most of what she gets. Her duet, "The Kiss You're Going to Get," snug with Benjy, a youth with a stutter, Mr. Douglas McLaren), is a dainty thing, and is bewitchingly done. Mlle. Regine Flory's costumes are marvellous and daring, and her singing, particularly of a haunting love song, "The Flower that Never Dies," brought down the house. The evening was a triumph for Mlle. Flory in patricular, although others, Miss Jean Cadell, Miss Peggy Kurton, and those already mentioned, all contributed to the success of the Gaiety's latest show.

MABEL KOOPMAN.

"ALADDIN" AT DRURY LANE.

Pantomime, in a Prologue and Three Acts, Written by F. Anstey, Frank Dix, and Arthur Collins, Music by J. M. Glover and Melville Gideon, Productd at Drury Lane on Boxing Night, Dec. 26.

Abanazar ..... Mr. Robert Hale
Widow Twankay .. Mr. Stanley Lupino
Emperor of China ..... Mr. Harry Claff
Slave of the Ring .... Mr. Will Evans
Slave of the Lamp .... Mr. Caleb Porter
Aladdin ..... Miss Madge Titheradge
Princess Badroulbadour Daisy Bindley
Chokee ..... Mr. Charley Penley
Ly-Chee ..... Mr. Edward Morgan
The Vizier ..... Mr. Marcel Godfrey
Executioner ..... Mr. Alec Johnstone
Spirit of the Cave .... Mr. Harry Claff
Toi-Sing ..... Miss Lennie Deane
Poetry ..... Miss K. Lane
Prose ..... Miss M. Preston

The pantomime at Drury Lane is a feast of comedy, colour, dancing, and delight. The prologue is excellently delivered by Miss M. Preston as Prose and Miss K. Lane as Poetry from two artistically arranged panels on either side of a centre opening in which glimpses are obtained of Abanazar, a very effective design by R. McCleery.

There are three scenes to the first act—Outskirts of Peking (G. de Feure), A Lonely Valley, and the Interior of the Cave (E. Ryan), from which Aladdin recovers the wonderful lamp. Act II. consists of four scenes—Room in Widow Twankay's House (Ryan), Pavilion of Audience (McCleery), The Banks of the River (de Feure), the Site of Aladdin's Palace and the New Palace (Marc Henri). In Act III. there are also four scenes—Courtyard of Aladdin's Palace, The Vacant Site (both by Bruce Smith), The Hall of Jewelled Windows, and The Royal Terraces (McCleery).

The Interior of the Cave is both magnificent and impressive, reminding one in its awesome grandeur of The Inferno of Dante. The arrangement of the dances, the dresses, and the music is all a masterpiece of conception and design, and will fill many a mind with wonder. Aladdin's New Palace is light, beautiful, sun-like, and poetic by contrast calculated to lure the imagination into the happiest vein by day and by night.

The story is simply and clearly told, and remains unobscured by the abundance of good rollicking fun that bursts upon us here, there and everywhere. "A child can follow the story," people will say—which is as it should be, even though the child be laughing all the time.

The cast is one that should make this year's pantomime at Old Drury notable. Miss Madge Titheradge, for the second year principal boy, interprets Aladdin as a delightful, lovable boy from the realms of Fairyland. She plays with a touch and sense so delicate and so refined, and looks so beautiful throughout the piece, imposing her personality of distinctive charm upon play and people, that the theatre is filled with that soothing and happy sense of make-believe which kills anxiety and substitutes joy. There does not live the boy or girl who can see this Aladdin in the cave searching for the lamp without sharing every emotion that through her thrills the scene, and how grand it is to watch her wielding the power given her by both magic ring and lamp—wielding it naturally, kindly, and as though magic power really course dthrough her veins. Madge Titheradge has a song this year, "The Chinese Billiken Man," but its rendition does not add to her charming performance.

Will Evans is the Slave of the Ring. His humour is deliciously quiet and telling. He gets roars upon roars of laughter for every jest, every one of which skims gracefully over the footlights to catch at the breath of the audience. He is particularly funny in many pieces of cross-talk, and no one who leaves the theatre with aching sides will forget how he persists in telling Abanazar that Aladdin is "Asleep." Building a palace, too, should become as great a classic as harnessing a horse.

Robert Hale as Abanazar strikes a new and pleasing note in Drury Lane pantomime. He has added to his other accomplishments some conjuring which comes excellently from "the Peaceful Merchant," who is the wicked uncle of the play. As one would expect, there is splendid character work in his performance, and the villain of the fairy tale is in his hands rightly and properly a Fairyland villain.

The Widow Twankay of Stanley Lupino will draw laughter from the most gloomy soul. He has many indescribably comic scenes, but one that will never be forgotten is that wherein he asks the Emperor, on behalf of Aladdin, for the hand of the Princess in marriage. It is one of those funny things that cannot be described. Everybody must see it.

Caleb Porter gives a fine performance as the Slave of the Lamp, his voice, action, make-up, and dress imparting just the right note of mysticism wherever he appears.

Harry Claff's fine voice is heard to advantage, and he shares with Stanley Lupino the high honours obtained by the "Pavilion of Audience" scene.

Miss Daisy Bindley is a charming Princess Badroulbadour. She sings beautifully, and is just the fairy princess for this Aladdin.

Miss Lennie Deane as Toi-Sing, Charles Penley as Chokee, Edward Morgan as Ly-Chee, Marcel Godfrey as the Vizier, and Alec Johnstone as the Executioner are all good.

The music, by J. M. Glover and Melville Gideon, is excellent, and Mr. Arthur Collins has every reason to be proud of his production, which will lighten the burdens of many thousands of people in the fourth year of the great war.

ALFRED BARNARD.

"THE WONDER TALES."

Children's Play, in Prologue and Three Acts, Adapted from Nathaniel Hawthorne, by Rose O'Neill and Ethel Weltch, Produced at the Ambassadors Theatre on Saturday afternoon, Dec. 22.

Prologue to the Tales.

Eustace Bright ..... Geoffrey Douglas
Blue-Eye ..... Kathleen Cope
Buttercup ..... Joan Wooller
Primrose ..... Icilma Rae
Clover ..... Mabel Ireston
Huckleberry ..... Henry Harrison

Tale 1.—Pandora, or the Wonderful Box.

Epimetheus (Theo) .... Patrick Ludlow
Alethea ..... Mira Kenham
Pandora ..... Hazel Jones
First Dancer ..... Moffat Thomas
Mercury ..... Geoffrey Douglas
Hate ..... Whitworth Jones
Greed ..... A. Corney Grain
Hope ..... Mary Grey

Tale 2.—Midas, or The Golden Touch.

King Midas ..... Whitworth Jones
Thesus ..... A. Corney Grain
Leda ..... Daisy Davis
Marygold ..... Hazel Jones
The Satrap of Paphlagonia ..... Allan Jeayes
Mercury ..... Geoffrey Douglas
Singer ..... Mary Grey

Tale 3.—Philemon and Baucis, or The Magic Pitcher.

Baucis ..... Mary Grey
Philemon ..... Allan Jeayes
Zoe ..... Marjory Holman
Timon ..... Kathleen Cope
Mercury ..... Geoffrey Douglas
Zeus (Father of the Gods) ..... Whitworth Jones

From the educational standpoint this production is to be deplored. Nathaniel Hawthorne's "Wonder Tales" have never done much good to anyone, and they have been responsible for a considerable amount of classical confusion in the minds of the young. It is difficult to maintain patience with the perversions of Eustace Bright, Hawthorne's pseudo-whimsical narrator, who amuses himself by pretending that Epimetheus and Pandora were a little boy and a little girl, that Midas had a daughter Marygold, and other heresies which could never be indulged in by anybody who understood mythology. Such interpolations and interpretations may (or may not) be all very well for grown-ups; Apollo may ride in a taxi in revue, where we are all sceptics; but children really do believe what they are told. Begin by instructing them that Queen Elizabeth was a chorus girl, or that Sheffield is an island in the Pacific Ocean, and you create an illusion which will never be completely banished from the back of their imagination. These are not purely speculative reflections. When a child I had the misfortune to read both the "Wonder" and the "Tanglewood Tales"; and I suffer from them to this day.

That is why I should like to see the Rt. Hon. Mr. Fisher step in and declare that these "Wonder Tales" should, like "Damaged Goods," be reserved "for adults only." Of course, children will thoroughly enjoy the representations, or misrepresentations of the Pandora, Midas, and Philemon and Baucis legends now being given at the Ambassadors. They will enjoy them as they enjoy nearly all the stage shows prepared for them. The trouble is that what is bad will appeal to them far more than what is good. For the most part, the production, while it is a very good imitation of Hawthorne, is about as like the spirit of the original legends as wax is like marble. Only once do we get the real Greek thing—where the evils escape from Pandora's box. The masks here of Hate and Greed are admirabel—so admirable that many of the children are terrified. On the other hand, the children are quite happy in contemplating the Mme. Tussaud Hope, who wears no mask, while they find nothing disturbing in such incongruities of dialogue as—Epimetheus (after kissing Pandora): "That wasn't bad." Pandora: "Yes, it seemed somewhat nice."

Leaving the ensemble out of the question, the pleasantest features of the entertainment are Miss Mary Grey's singing and Miss Kathleen Cope's Timon (a very jolly boy). Miss Hazel Jones is as pretty as a picture as Pandora and Marygold; but, of course, these become only Christmas-party heroines. As minor practical suggestions I would mention that the first two scenes of the Midas tale should be telescoped into one; that Hate, like Greed, should wear gloves (for the mask loses its significance without them); and that the charm of the barefoot dancing would be considerably enhanced if only the stage could be kept scrupulously clean.

HERBERT FARJEON.

A Pontypridd Pantomime.

At the New Theatre, Pontypridd, on Christmas night, R. Nightingale, Ltd., presented the up-to-date pantomime, "Dick Whittington." Ella Roma is a fascinating Dick Whittington; Marjorie Baird charmingly portrays Alice Fitzwarren; Eric Wynter scores as Alderman Fitzwarren; Walter Granby is good as Idle Jack; Caroline, the cook, is well acted by Peggy Dallas; Will Scotton ably plays the Emperor; Ernie Dale is a clever Cat; the Misses Maisie Ashley, Dorothy Cairn, Babs Pacey, Marie Danyer, Nellie Norman, and May Williams cleverly assume other characters. Specialities are introduced by Sinclair's Three Diamonds

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Wire for Jan. 14 and 21 (through obliging).
Feb. 18, March 11, April 8, on.
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Jan. 14.
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Jan. 7,
Jan. 7,
Jan. 7,
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March 4.
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"Dick Whittington."

WANTED, for Panto. (rehearse immediately), open Monday, several smart Chorus Ladies, few Good Dancers. Age, height, photo., terms, and refs., to MADGE FENTON, this, Coliseum, Ilkeston; next, Grand, Accrington.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED Known, ROY LEIGHTON, at liberty for Pantomime or Revue.

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WANTED, Beginners, Amateur, those wishing to take up stage (all branches) or Cinema; everything supplied, advice free, dancing taught (private tuition); children prepared. Write, WARD, 155, Willesden-lane, Brondesbury, N.W.

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WANTED, First-class Stage Manager for Tour, commencing Jan. 28. Address, FRED FREDERICKS, 73, Romford-road, Stratford, E. 15.

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WANTED, First-class Advance Agent for "The Better 'Ole." Apply, A. E. ABRAHAMS, 73, Romford-road, Stratford, E. 15.

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WANTED, Pianist Conductor, small orchestra, pictures and variety. Full particulars, references, &c., MUSICUS, Hippodrome, Gloucester. (Not for this hall.)

J. McCall's Orchestras.
WANTED, for first-class twice nightly Cinema, experienced Pianist-Conductor; one able to double with Clarinet or other instrument preferred; Solo Violin (Leader), 'Cello, and Solo Cornet; permanency; open Dec. 31 or Jan. 7. Terms, age, and refs., J. McCALL, M.D., 219, Grimsby-road, Cleethorpes.

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WANTED (open immediately) first-class Pianist-Conductor (arrange, &c.) for Panto., Revue to follow; long comfortable shop and good money to right man. MADGE FENTON, this week (Dec. 24), Coliseum, Ilkeston; next week (Dec. 31), Grand, Accrington.

WANTED, Violinist (rep.), lady or gent. Must be good player. MANAGER, Palace, Bedford.

WANTED, at once, Violin Leader for Pictures and Varieties; permanent engagement. DREW, 22, Lennox-street, Weymouth.

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WANTED Known, Musicians (ladies or gentlemen) contemplating entering into engagements for Lytham and St. Anne's Council Bands next season are requested to communicate at once with Mr. J. AINLEY, District Secretary, A.M.U., 15, Ferguson-rd., Blackpool.

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WANTED, good Bass Trombone for Brighton, 11.30 till 1, 2.45 till 4.30 daily, and music hall nightly; inclusive salary, £5 weekly; commence Dec. 3. Apply, A. M. U., No. 1, Avenue Chambers, Southampton-row, London, W.C. 1.

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Good salary to the right person, and Comfortable Permanency.

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WANTED, Engagement with established Trio or Quartette, Solo and Ensemble Pianist and Composer; Conservatoire training; possesses rich tenor voice; totally exempt through sight; age 21; fine personality. Apply, EDWIN FOXLEY, 1, Kelvin-grove, Roker, Sunderland.

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WANTED, Big Specialities, Novelties, Animal Acts, Juvenile Troupes, &c., for the following dates:—
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WANTED, Refined Variety Artistes in all lines, Sisters, Speciality Acts who can work on small stage. Wire for Monday next and on. BERT, The Nest, Brighton-road, Aldershot.

WANTED, Acts of all descriptions, for Monday next.
Full particulars,
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Will Messrs. Rell and Butt kindly communicate, important?

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The inimitable famous Dame Scena success, "Getting the Dinner In," written by John Brittain. Own scene, 3 artistes, 15 minutes.
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WANTED, Jan. 14 and 28, by the Charming and Talented SISTERS WEBB (Tina and Inga). Dec. 24, Pal., Salisbury. All coms., JO JO WEBB, 36, Dalhousie-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, MARGARET BRIERLEY, expert instrumentalists, Monday next, Dec. 31. Wire, Picture Palace, Royston, Yorks.

WANTED, Monday next, 31st, by VICTOR HEARNE, Character Comedian. Terrific success Victoria Palace, London. Refer John Hayman, Esq. Always a success. P A., 20, Lavender-rd., Battersea, S.W.

WANTED, Dec. 31 and Jan. 6, JACK LAYTON (musical clown), Bugle, Cornet, Eng. Concertina, and Silvery Hand Bells. This, Bijou, Bridgwater, Somerset.

WANTED, WAL and ROSA, Star Comedy Patter Act. This, Palace, York. Next, Hippo., Hulme, Manchester. Thanks Will Sley, Esq., and Shayler's Agency for dates; January 7, on, with exceptions.

WANTED, Monday next, also Jan. 7, &c., THE MELFORDS (Lady and Gent.), novel eccentric dancers. Those requiring a novel dancing speciality, wire, this, Grand, Bolton. Note!—Gent discharged.

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Hengler's Circus, Glasgow.
Season's compliments to all.

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WANTED, Monday next, for SAM LASKO, the Great Globe Equilibrist, juggler, balancer, hat spinner, &c. Big success this week, Theatre Royal, Chorley. Wire offers for Monday, Theatre Royal, Chorley, Lancs.

WANTED, Jan. 7 and 14, by KAMAKURA FAMILY, Japanese Conjurers, introducing their celebrated Enchanted Fountains. This, Finsbury Park Empire.

WANTED Known, The BELLINIS, Novel Equilibrists and Daring Aerial Gymnasts, vacant Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 11, 18, only vacancies before sailing for Paris. This week, Pavilion, Leicester; next, Palace, Yeovil. Compliments of the season to all friends.

WANTED, Jan. 7, 14, 21, by the famous ENARDO BROS., gymnasts in mid-air. Notice.—We have altered our act into a comedy, in which it is a big success. This, Hippo., Keighley, Yorks. Next, Collins', London.

WANTED, Monday next, Dec. 31, by LEARTO and DOG. Funny Musical Act. LEARTO, Olympia, Chichester, or Agents.

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WINTER GARDENS, CHELTENHAM, Jan. 7, week
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GREETINGS
FROM
'Burlington Bertie'
AND
ELLA SHIELDS.

NEXT WEEK'S CALLS.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1917.

The Editor relies upon the good faith of managers and others, and cannot accept responsibility with regard to any inaccuracies or changes which may be made in the calls.

BOSTOCK TOUR.

BLANTYRE PICTURE HOUSE.—Belton and Osborne, pictures.

HAMILTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Tommies' Lonely Lasses, James Houston and Co. in "The Best Man," Four Maxwells, Mart and Pep, La Razcka Duo, Orton and Onley, Jock Mills and Myra Norman, Rastus and Banks.

IPSWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2).—Peterman's Co. in "The Bewildered Barber," Sisters Le Clair, Billy Housini and Co., Ed. Kinsberry, J. P. Ling, Pathé's Gazette, Shimagata Troupe.

IPSWICH LYCEUM — "The Little Match Girl."

NORWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2).—Horsfield and Woodward's pantomime, "Aladdin."

NORWICH THEATRE ROYAL.—Company as booked.

PAISLEY RINK PICTURE PALACE.—Pete and Minnie Lee, Rosa Goldie, Patterson-Somerville Trio, Exposition Three.

LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS

BRIXTON EMPRESS (rehearsal, 12).—George French, Terence Byron and company in "Simple Simon," the Castillians, Elsie Spain and Randell Jackson, Jack Boston and Co., Stella Spence and Harry Jocelyn, Jubb and Jerome, Bioscope, Ada Cerito, Bessie Mason.

CHELSEA (rehearsal, 12).—Joe Elvin and Co. in "Bogies," Frank and Vesta, Ko Ten Ichi Troupe, Tom and Marie Motramo, Hope Charteris, Francis and Alfred, Arthur Slater, Anna Hana, Frank H. Fox, Bioscope.

EAST HAM (rehearsal, 12).—Walter Bentley presents "Odds On," Ray and Bunnie Kingston, Sisters Macarte, Bioscope.

EUSTON (rehearsal, 12).—Marie Lloyd, the Marvellous Jees, Dnig Sen Bros., Leo Dryden, the Mayne Steppers, Anderson and Addison, Edie Gorf, Clown Argo, Harry Marvello, Bioscope.

LONDON PAVILION (rehearsal, 11.30).—E. C. Rolls' production, "Any Old Thing," Marie Lloyd.

METROPOLITAN (rehearsal, 12.15).—Frances Letty's Co. in "Bobo," Norman Field, Nan Foster, Bioscope.

OXFORD (rehearsal, 12).—C. B. Cochran's production, "The Better 'Ole."

SOUTH LONDON (rehearsal, 12).—Rossi's Elephants, Fred Maitland and Co., Ford and Urma, Les Altos, Chris Van Bern, Wilfred Burnand, De Lilo Sisters, May Edney, Bioscope.

TOTTENHAM (rehearsal, 2).—Moss' Empires, Ltd., present "Joy-Land."

WALTHAMSTOW (rehearsal, 1).—"The Lads of the Village."

WATFORD (rehearsal, 1).—Joe Collins' pantomime, "Babes in the Wood."

LONDON THEATRES OF VARIETIES.

BALHAM HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—G. H. Chirgwin, Chas. Austin and Co., "Parker's Appeal," Warner, Maurice, Betty and Gordon, Bioscope.

CAMBERWELL EMPIRE (rehearsal, 4).—W. W. Kelly presents "A Royal Divorce," Bioscope.

CAMBERWELL PALACE (rehearsal, 4).—Ella Shields, H. M. Vernon's Co., "Double Escape," Daly and Healy, Estelle Rose, Winstone Players, Mabel Manson, Dusty Rhodes, Betancourt, the 7 Leroys, Bioscope.

CLAPHAM GRAND (rehearsal, 4).—Wm. Henshall's revue, "The Sugar Baby," Takio, Nina Dumai, Bioscope.

CROYDON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 4).—Charles Austin and Co., "Parker's Appeal," Gus Elen, 3 Prodigies, Helen Moray, Isa Wise, Phil Kaufman, Fulgora, May and Bertha, Bioscope.

CROYDON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Joe Collins presents "Sinbad the Sailor," Bioscope.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE (rehearsal, 4).—Albert Whelan, Mary Mayfren and Co., "Woman of Louvain," O'Gorman Bros., Bert Terrell, Liane d'Eve, the Rainbows, Record Quartette, Bert Weston, Sylvester and Co., Bioscope.

HOLBORN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 4).—Wilkie Bard, Marie Loftus, Sam Mayo, Anna Dorothy, Hanlon Charles, the Stellios, Harry Taft, Bioscope.

ILFORD HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Charles Gulliver's pantomime, "Dick Whittington."

ISLINGTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 4).—Hetty King, Wish Wynne, Dusty Rhodes, the Days, Paget Trio, Borneo Gardner, Bioscope.

KILBURN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 4).—R. G. Knowles, Harmony Four, Fred Russell, Beth Tate, Bert Weston, Estelle Rose, Lucille Benstead, Will Lacey, Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, Bioscope, 5 Jovers.

LEWISHAM HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Charles Gulliver's pantomime, "Cinderella."

PALLADIUM (rehearsal, 11.30).—Little Tich, Bransby Williams, Ernie Lotinga and Co., "Woman of Louvain," Vernon Watson, Neil Kenyon, Gregory Troupe, Sam Barton, Bessie Clifford, Bioscope, Lilian Byrne, Oswald Bemand.

POPLAR HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Herbert Jay presents "Frills and Drills," Shirley and Ransome, Lily Lassah, Bioscope, Ted Saunders.

PUTNEY HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Lew Lake and Co., including Pimple, the Westbrooks, Bioscope.

ROTHERHITHE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—John Lawson and Co. in "The Dowry," Nondescripts, Bioscope.

SHOREDITCH OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 4).—Charles Gulliver's pantomime, "Mother Goose."

WILLESDEN HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Jack and Evelyn, Sam Mayo, Hayman and Franklin, Suther, Wyn and Ivy, Cecil Lyle, Maggie Carr, Aimee Roberts, Bioscope.

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—George Mozart, Amy Evans, Garadini, Maud Aston and Co. in "Squibs," the Hartley Wonders, Joe and Willy, George Newburn, May Levey, Torino, Bioscope.

MACNAGHTEN TOUR.

BLACKBURN.—Pictures, Ragard and Brownie, Loraine West, Stowe Bros., Renn and Bart, Sylvia and Mignon, Marie Ambrose, Football Skating Girls.

BRADFORD.—Pictures, Foden Williams, Fred Ee Dene, Marie Turner, Vardel and Partner, "Under Suspicion," the Kavanaghs.

BURNLEY.—Pictures, Wee Georgie Beck, and company as booked.

CARLISLE.—Pictures, Ray Collis, Cavalotti, Harold Feber, Helen Charles, Four Havannas, Da Costa, "Flirtations of Frank."

HALIFAX.—Pictures, Joe and Betty Binns, Alcide Capitaine, Hanvarr and Lee, Marcelle Molray, Niblo and Doris, Khaki Boys.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Pictures, Nance and Laurie, Gordon Brown, Eddy Reed, Cyril Clensy, Bert Elliott, Reg Faze, G. T. Pattman.

SOUTHAMPTON.—Pictures, Cyril Silvern, Ethel Castaldini, Marie Dainton, Wu Chaio Troupe, G. W. Hunter, the Gravettas, Angel Blanco.

WARRINGTON.—"Robinson Crusoe." Rehearsal at all halls at 12.

MOSS' EMPIRES.

BIRMINGHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Marie Kay, Betty Washington, the Six Q's, Sylphide Sisters.

BIRMINGHAM GRAND (rehearsal, 1).—Evelyn and St. Helier, Dainty Doris, Lawrence Barclay, 3 Merrills, Jean Schwiller and Co.

BIRMINGHAM SUMMERHILL PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—Julian Vedey, Holly Grey, Andy Moran.

BRADFORD ALHAMBRA (rehearsal, 12.15).—The Mountfords, Rubani Trio, Jose De Moraes, Tom. E. Hughes.

CARDIFF EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Frank Whitman, Emilie Hayes, Sam Stern, the Four Clovelly Girls, Five Wartons.

CARDIFF OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 12).—Brand and Shaw, Hilda Lethwaite.

FINSBURY PARK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Baisden, Derra De Moroda, Ernest Hastings.

GATESHEAD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Mark Sheridan and Co. in "Gay Paree."

GLASGOW EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Waters and Morris, Molly Butler, Meteor Trio, Gomez Trio.

LONDON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 11).—"Zig-Zag."

NEW CROSS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Will Hay, Duncan and Godfrey, Les Trombetta, and company as booked.

NEWPORT EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Well and Smith, Emeric and Ainslie, Mme. Sabonoff.

NOTTINGHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Elsie Roby, Giordani, Purcella Bros., Agda and Co., Alfredo, Harry Bedford.

SOUTHSEA KING'S THEATRE (rehearsal, 1.30).—Arthur Cooke, Susie Marney, A. D. Robbins, Rax and Dax, Will Van Allen, Herbert Cave.

SOUTH SHIELDS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—"Flying Colours."

STRATFORD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—S. W. Wyndham, Barton and Ashley, Piccadillians, Shawlene, Cornalla and Eddie.

SUNDERLAND EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—"The Better 'Ole."

WEST HARTLEPOOL EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—"General Post."

STOLL TOUR.

ARDWICK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—Pat Lynch, Sergeant Brennan, Mikado Family, Brinn, Jane Croft, Miles-Stavordale Quintette, Butters and the Boob, Elvan Hedges, Bioscope.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Loupe and Ladies, Sylvia Van Dyck, Jack Lane, Tucker, Brazilian Trio, Bioscope.

CHATHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—La Bas Duo, Rosie Lloyd, the Biff Girls, Fred Barnes, Talbot O'Farrell, Bioscope.

CHISWICK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Campbell and Brady, Ethel Hook, Tom Stuart, Fred Milner, Delson and Good Trio, Bioscope.

HACKNEY EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Dare Austin and Co., Ida Long, George D'Albert, Roxy La Rocca, Donald and Carson, Alberto, Frank Maura, Bioscope.

LEICESTER PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—"Air Birds," Dan Rolyat, Bioscope.

LONDON ALHAMBRA, W.C.—"Round the Map" revue. Cast includes Violet Loraine, Nelson Keys, and Alfred Lester. (Matinées every day of "Bluebell in Fairyland.")

LONDON COLISEUM rehearsal, 10).—Violet Vanbrugh and Co. in "The Woman on the Window Sill," Lydia Kyasht, Marguerite Scialtiel and Co. in "Maid of France," Grock, Sisters O'Hara, Wieland, Great and Good, Nevotti, Dalmere's Circus, Bioscope.

MANCHESTER HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 10).—Lewis Douglas, Bob Anderson, Veronica Brady, Spessell Bros. and Mack, Ritchie Troupe, Bioscope. (Matinées Monday and Tuesday.)

NEW MIDDLESEX (rehearsal, 12).—"La Poupee."

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Terriss and Romaine, Nina's Sea Lions, Jack Morrison, Foreman and Fannan, Elizabeth Newbould, Walker's Juveniles, Winter and Bunny, Bioscope.

STOLL PICTURE THEATRE (London Opera House).—Pictures and varieties.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Pasquali Brothers, Tom Clare, Arthur Aiston, Bi-Bo-Bi, O'Hanlon and Zambounis, Bioscope.

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BOSCOMBE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1.30).—Leith Hazel, Takase, Harry Fields, Mareski, Gt. Carmo, pictures.

BRIGHTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Hall and Turn, Anna Martens, Mary Moran and Co., Melody Makers, Victor Kelly, Ruth Vincent, Malcolm Scott, Harry Lamore.

GLASGOW ALHAMBRA (rehearsal, 12).—Wylie and Tate's pantomime, "Dick Whittington."

LEEDS HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—E. C. Rolls' "Topsy Turvy."

LIVERPOOL HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Florrie Forde's pantomime, "Robin Hood; or, Babes in the Wood."

MANCHESTER PALACE (rehearsal, 11).—Wylie and Tate's pantomime, "Babes in the Wood."

MARGATE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2.30).—Harold Reading's pantomime, "Dick Whittington."

NEWCASTLE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Dick Ward and Partner, Harry Taylor, Ash and Allandale, Olga Hudson Trio, J. W. Rickaby, Archie Goodall and Co.

PARIS ALHAMBRA.—Bon Air Trio, Keystones, Carlton, Cole de Losse, Alexandre, Les Fabiens, and company as booked.

PORTSMOUTH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Silent Tait and Aimee, Harry Halsey, Kamakiras, Dorothy Storm, Geo. Graves and Co., Lee White and Clay Smith, Artois.

SHEFFIELD HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Edensten and Burns' pantomime, "Jack and Jill."

SOUTHAMPTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1.30).—Bert Coleman, Cooper Mitchell, "All Clear," pictures.

SOUTHEND HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1.30).—Geo. Dance's "To-Night's the Night."

WOLVERHAMPTON EMPIRE.—Lilian Carter, Le Max, "Where's the Chicken?"

ALBANY WARD CIRCUIT.

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BRIDGWATER PALACE.—"The Rotters" Co., Jan. 3, 4 and 5.

SALISBURY NEW THEATRE.—"The Christian" Co.

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WESTON-SUPER-MARE PALACE.—Repertoire Co.

WEYMOUTH JUBILEE HALL.—Irma Lorraine and Co., Fanny Needham, Bunny and Gladys, Signor and Mme. Borelli, Woodward and Page.

WEYMOUTH PALLADIUM.—Pictures.

YEOVIL PALACE. — Bellinis, Millie Merrie.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ALDERSHOT HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Lawrence Wright Ensemble, Artemas, Mafuziang Troupe, Rose Cambry, Tom Leamore, 5 Wilburs, Vera Caine, Fred Hawtree.

ALDERSHOT ALFRED BERT'S MILITARY HALLS (rehearsal, 2.30).—The Two Pearls, the Dees, Suzette Sonia, Elsie and Violet, the Reed Trio, John Thomas, Lulu French, Geo. Thompson, Jack Harnsall, and full pantomime company as booked, "Cinderella."

ASTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Gotham Four, Walter Bellonini, Vera and Vi, Napoli, Poppescues, Lee Ephraim's "The Meanest Man on Earth," Alice Gill, Vivian Foster.

BATH PALACE.—Mrs. Langtry and Co., Bertha May, the Ballad Mongers, Dan Filmer, Tait and Amee, Fenner and Sulley, Bioscope.

BIRMINGHAM HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Jim Nolan, Spry and Monti, Joe Boganny and company, Alice Craven, Foster Kershaw, La Cariella.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—"Over the Top."

DUDLEY OPERA HOUSE.—"The Young Minister."

EDINBURGH PRINGLE'S PALACE.—Cambo and Castelle, the Warwoods, Johnny Beveridge.

EDMONTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 4).—Charlie Danvers and Co., Four Black Diamonds, Willie Rolls, Falcon and Follie, La Musicale, Dora Dare, Maree and Ruby Rourke, Fred Douglas.

FELIXSTOWE PLAYHOUSE (rehearsal, 2).—Sydney Lester's A La Mode Concert Party.

FOLKESTONE ELECTRIC THEATRE. Harry Lacey, Sisters Gaye.

GOLDER'S GREEN HIPPODROME.—"Mother Goose" pantomime.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE.—Geo. Lee and Co., Vine and Brewer, Arthur Stevens, Arran, Ashley Vincent, Bioscope.

KINGSTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—G. Brydon Phillips' pantomime, "Little Red Riding-Hood."

LONDON, CANNING TOWN, IMPERIAL THEATRE.—"Dick Whittington," pantomime.

LONDON GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN (rehearsal, 2).—Daisy Griff, J. J. Wild and company in sketch, "The Woman Who Would," Zellini, Jenny Castelle, Arthur Maynard, Harry Talbot, De Busse, Tom Costello, Ethel Leslie, Pathé's Gazette.

LONDON PALACE.—"Pamela."

LONDON SHOREDITCH EMPIRE.—Morny Cash, Evelyn Taylor, Ben and Cornell, Peggy Fame, Stacey and Tinney, Peter Bernard, Martinis and Vic Gould Raymond and Ivy, Bioscope.

LONDON VICTORIA PALACE.—Coram, Albert Whelan, Elgar Hudson Quintette, Morny Cash, the McNaughtons, Rennie and Roxburgh, Ray Hartley, Fuji Family.

NORTHAMPTON NEW THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Symphonia, Cara Magda Ollioms, Gicardo, 3 Osrams, Frank Powell Lowther and Co., Jack Willis.

PENGE EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Horsfield and Woodward's pantomime, "Aladdin."

PLYMOUTH PALACE (rehearsal, 1).—Johnson Clark, Jock Whiteford, Mary Law, J. H. Oakden's sketch, "The Collar Stud," Daly and Marr, C. Johnson, Beryl Joyce.

PONTYPRIDD TOWN HALL.—Gilday and Fox, Michaeloff Trio, Hall and Turn, Musical Lento, pictures.

READING PALACE (rehearsal, 1).—George Ackroyd and Marie Lorenzi, Freda Danilo, Daunton Shaw Troupe, Pathé's Gazette, Royal Merry Four, Taylor and Nichols, Stoppit, Novel and Haig, Joan Ware, Wilson and Waring.

SALFORD REGENT (rehearsal, 11).—Ernest Dottridge's pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe."

WIGAN HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 11).—The Akebona Japanese Troupe, W. B. Raby, Renee Rice, Mlle. Clo d'Arte, the Musical Bentleys, Charles F. Hill, Paul Stephens, and company as booked.

"SINBAD" AT CROYDON.

Sinbad .....Miss Nan Chester
Middy .....Miss Dorothy Dean
Sadie .....Miss Doris May
Pearl .....Miss Frances Wynn
Lustra .....Miss Phyllis Symondson
Dame .....Mr. George Rapley
Captain .....Mr. Tom B. Davis
Mate .....Mr. Fred Allsopp
Old Man of the Sea .....Mr. J. Mathison Jones
Hindbad .....Mr. Walter Wade

Mr. Joe Collins has an enviable reputation in the realm of pantomime, and he has certainly enhanced it in this production of "Sinbad" at the Croydon Hippodrome. The scenery and dresses formed a picture always pleasing to the eye, some of the scenes, notably the Port of Basora, the deck of the "Saucy Soosie," the Diamond Valley, and the Palace, proving gems of artistry. A capital cast is headed by Miss Nan Chester, who as Sinbad plays with vivacity and charm, acting, singing, and dancing very cleverly. Her principal numbers are "Where the Black-eyed Susans Grow," "She's Ma Thistle" (with Scotch chorus appropriately clad), "Isle of Love," and "Oh! It's a Lovely War." Very pretty and very dainty is the Sadie of Miss Doris May, who makes the most of her chances in "Swing Me in the Moonlight," a particularly pretty scene. Mr. Walter Wade is very funny as Hindbad; unlike many comedians, he can sing, and sing well. His "Sugar Card" number was quite good, and his burlesque, "I Wonder If You'll Miss Me Sometimes," was a gem. Mr. George Rapley made a great success as the dame, a capital impersonation. The tram concert medley was well sung. Mr. Tom B. Davis did excellent work as the Captain; his song, "Johnnie, Don't Leave the Quay," and burlesque after, won him loud applause. Mr. Fred Allsopp works hard as the Mate, and is responsible for a deal of the comedy success of the show, and Mr. J. Mathison Jones not only essays with dramatic fervour the part of the Old Man of the Sea, but has staged the whole pantomime. Miss Dorothy Dean was a dapper Middy and Miss Frances Wynn a delightful Pearl, whilst great praise is due to Miss Phyllis Symondson, as Lustra, and Collins's Houp-La troupe of expert dancers, all pretty girls, for their dances. A good-looking chorus ably assist.

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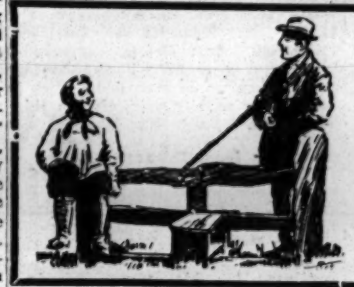

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This, EUSTON.
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I just got a letter from a lady's solicitor. Read *John Bull*, etc., when case comes on. Charley Cohen has nice wife and two children. Now that we got Palestine, what more does he want? I have been appointed Pork Inspector to Jerusalem. I couldn't make a living playing the Banjo at Funerals.
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GIGGLES & GIRLS. Revue. Featuring Arthur Rigby. Vacant March 4, 1918 onward (with exceptions).
SEARCH ME. The Best Comedy Revue on record. Vacant March 4, 1918, onwards (with exceptions).
OH! DOCTOR. Revue. (New Production) Cast includes:—George Jackley, Ray Holgate, Hettie Hartley, &c. Vacant March 25, 1918 onwards (with exceptions).

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Theatre "Profiteering."

The rapidly-rising rents of certain West End theatres continue to cause much comment. Pathetic epistles are cropping up day by day in our contemporaries from would-be impresarii who cannot get theatres, either from a so-called "famine" as regards playhouses, or woefully deploring the fast piling-up "profit-rentals."

Sub-Lessees Many Deep.

Undoubtedly this kind of rental rapacity on the part of theatre lessees and sub-letters thereof is fast becoming quite a scandal on the part of some theatrical "brick and mortar" profiteers. I could give several very "awful examples" of this growing evil—examples of the profit-"pinchers" being several "deep" at some playhouses.

Theatre-hunters may, however, take comfort in the fact that if they do but bide their time—say, for about ten or twelve weeks—they will find several of these theatre-rental profiteers very glad to let or to sub-let at very much reduced terms!

Mrs. "Cyril."

I have just been having a pleasant chat with that accomplished actress Winifred Emery (Mrs. Cyril Maude), who was looking radiantly handsome. Upon my reproaching her for having been so long absent from our stage, Mrs. Maude told me that she hopes to reappear when Husband Cyril comes back home after his long and prosperous tour in the States, &c. That will be about April.

Play Hoarding.

Really Mr. Bernard Hishin is piling up plays to an alarming height. Not only has he the lately "censored" but now "passed" play, "The Knife," and "The Last Straw" (so successfully produced at Eastbourne the other week), and several other plays acquired some time ago, but now, forsooth, he actually confesses to me that he has just secured yet another play. This is a new musical comedy or comic opera written by Norman Slee and composed by John Ansell, the musical director of the Alhambra. The present title is "Laurette."

"Sleeping Partners."

New Year's Eve has now been decided upon for the production of the new comedy, "Sleeping Partners" at the St. Martin's. For this occasion the curtain will rise at eight o'clock.

A Felicitous Event.

Hearty congratulations to Mrs. Patrick Hartigan, to whom a daughter has just been born. Mrs. Hartigan will be better known to my readers as Norah Edwardes, youngest daughter of the late Mr. George Edwardes.

Change Partners!

Presently you will hear of the dissolution of a long-existing partnership between two important managers.

The Old Vic. Matinée.

With regard to Sir James Barrie's promised playlet for the forthcoming matinée in aid of the old "Vic.," be not surprised if that miniature work—which is to be called "La Politesse"—should prove to be associated with a specimen of the "blood-and-thunder" school of drama so long connected with that hundred-year-old theatre's palmy days.

Business and Veracity.

Seasonable attractions are now holding the boards at the Savoy, but when the holiday revivals of "Alice in Wonderland" and "The Private Secretary" are over, Mr. H. B. Irving has arranged that the theatre shall pass temporarily into the hands of Messrs. Alfred Butt and Gilbert Miller, who early in February will produce the farce, "Nothing but the Truth," by James Montgomery. The situations of the piece, which has proved a great success in America, turn upon the difficulties experienced by the junior member of a firm who, having undertaken a certain business transaction, has also wagered that he will speak nothing but the truth for twenty-four hours.

The part of the veracious youth will be played by Mr. A. E. Matthews, than whom no better selection could be made. The cast also brings together several other favourites, including Mr. Charles Glenney, Mr. Percival Clarke, Mr. Paul Arthur, Mr. O. B. Clarence, Miss Sheila Hayes, Miss Dorothy Minto, and Miss Henrietta Watson.

Cupid Still Busy.

This time Mr. Clive McKee has fallen under that precocious youngster's spell. The lady is Miss Grace Dove, who, under her professional name of Marie Minto, has been playing in "The Better 'Ole" on tour. Mr. McKee is kept pretty busy as general manager to Mr. C. B. Cochran.

Scarcity of Oboe Players.

Sir Thomas Beecham entered an appeal at the House of Commons Tribunal last week for Horace Halstead, oboe player at Drury Lane. It was stated the man was permanently employed by Sir Thomas in connection with his scheme to introduce English opera. Halstead is a C3 man, aged 30, and one of the very few oboe players the country possesses. The Tribunal ordered him to be graded.

Nancy Buckland's War Work.

London playgoers will not be seeing Miss Nancy Buckland, who was such a favourite of recent pantomimes at Drury Lane, for some time. The reason is that she is now appearing with the Canteen Board theatres all over the country, playing the leads in musical comedy, "Gipsy Love," "The Merry Widow," "The Sunshine Girl," and other popular productions.

She looks upon her new duties as war work, and accepts a proportionate salary. The work is very interesting, but pretty hard, as she has to devote her mornings to rehearsals and performs twice nightly at the camp theatre. The artistes, she tells me, adapt themselves to circumstances, and are quite content to put up in the various hostels when hotels or other lodgings are not available.

The last time Miss Buckland appeared at a camp theatre was as a member of a Pierrot troupe, when she danced and gave imitations of Harry Weldon and other variety stars. Her recent appearance, therefore, in the dramatic soprano part in "Gipsy Love" provided a vivid contrast. Miss Buckland has been on the stage 15 years, and is, despite her youthfulness, quite a seasoned artiste.

A "David Garrick" Matinée.

Mr. Martin Harvey has arranged, with the permission of Sir Charles and Lady Wyndham, to give a special matinée of "David Garrick" on Tuesday, Jan. 8, at the Comedy, in aid of the Lord Roberts Memorial Workshops. The cast will include, in addition to Mr. Harvey, Messrs. Rutland Barrington, Fred Grove, J. Cook Beresford, Misses Marie Linden, and N. de Silva.

L.V.R War Bond Draw.

My congratulations to Mr. Carl Hentschel, the secretary, on the success of the L.V.R. National War Bond Draw, which will considerably augment the funds of the London Volunteer Rifles, who are doing such good work in connection with assisting the London Fire Brigade on occasion of air raids and big fires. £7,000 was subscribed and distributed amongst 219 subscribers, the first prize being £1,750 (No. 5,757); second prize, £700 (No. 2,419); and third prize, £350 (No. 6,591).

The Tragedy of War.

The three-year-old victim of Tuesday's air raid, Violet Russell, killed whilst the father was on duty in the mounted police, was the niece of Miss Violet Russell. Most of Miss Russell's family have been victims of war, on the field and off, dating from the Crimea.

"Baby Mine" Business.

The paragraph last week stating that Mr. Keith Kenneth had been touring "Remnant," with Miss Betty Fairfax in the title-rôle, needs some correction. It was not in "Remnant," but in "Baby Mine," that Miss Fairfax played to over £1,050. Mr. Kenneth has just bought "Remnant" from Messrs. Vedrenne and Eadie, and is sending it on tour in the spring, when we have no doubt Miss Fairfax will be equally successful in this as she was in "Baby Mine."

Greetings from France.

A letter has reached us from W. F. Guest, who until he joined His Majesty's Forces was acting manager of the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham. At present he is lying in P Ward, 55th General Hospital, B.E.F., France. He sends New Year greetings to his many friends in the profession, who, I am sure, will join me in wishing him a speedy recovery. Letters will reach him at above address, and would be heartily welcomed.

Stock at Shrewsbury

The experiment made by Mr. and Mrs. Bates Maddison in engaging the talented and versatile Raynor Repertoire Company for a continuous run of six weeks at the County Theatre, Shrewsbury, has been more than justified, and the proprietors have engaged the same company for a return visit in the coming month. Three plays per week twice nightly is an exacting order, yet these have been admirably staged by a well balanced and highly meritorious company, of which Miss Ennis Lawson and Mr. Richard A. Greene are the principals.

Elsie Janis, Munitionette.

The new production in which Miss Elsie Janis will appear when she returns to Europe, under Mr. Albert de Courville's management, will be "The Munitionette." It may first be staged in Paris.

A Comic Melodrama.

The latest from America is a "comic melodrama," which Mr. Albert de Courville will stage at the Strand Theatre at the end of January. It is called "Cheating Cheaters."

Pros.' in the "Wesleyan" Temple.

It was quite a quaint experience to see the "stars" of the stage at the Theatrical Ladies' Guild's Tea Party the other day amid their strange, new, and hitherto very untheatrical environment. I mean at the Central Hall, Westminster, the headquarters of the Wesleyan body. For example, there I noted Martin Harvey, Irene Vanbrugh, Otho Stuart, Leonard Boyne, Lottie Venne, Mrs. Fred Wright (a marvel for her age), Clara Jecks, Phyllis Broughton, Gerald du Maurier (and Mrs. "Gerald"), and other favourites, serving out tea (*and* sugar!) or selling souvenirs, tickets, &c., with all around them long shelves of thousands of theological volumes in all languages, and above them huge oil-painted portraits of Wesleyan "presidents" and preachers!

Curious Questioners.

It was amusing to note, too, how the many "lay" folk present closely questioned some of the busy "professionals" present concerning the name, status, &c., of certain of the "stars" buzzing around. One very persistent and exceedingly prim lady plied W. T. Lovell, the experienced stage manager of Wyndham's Theatre, with many queries as to "Who is that?" "What does she act?" &c., &c. And when at last poor Lovell had "obliged" with all kinds of information while balancing his many cups of tea and handing them over the counter to customers, that persistent lady suddenly turned upon him and exclaimed, "And who are *you*?" "I!" replied Lovell — "I am one of the waiters!" "Oh!" retorted his keen questioner, and sailed solemnly off, without so much as a "Thank you!"

Death of Gertrude Robins.

The announcement of the death of Miss Gertrude L. Robins, actress and playwright, who was the wife of Lieut. Charles Dawson, has been received with much regret. She was only in her thirty-first year. Miss Robins began her theatrical career in the late Wilson Barrett's repertory company, playing lead in "Lucky Durham"; afterwards she joined the late James Welch in "When Knights Were Bold," and she was the heroine in "Officer 666." Miss Robins was the author of several plays, most of them one-act pieces, including "Makeshifts," produced in 1908; "The Point of View," "Realities," and "Old Jan," a Dutch sketch, all produced at the Gaiety, Manchester; "The Home-Coming," produced at the Abbey, Dublin; "Loving as We Do," "Pot Luck," a village play, and "The Plaything," a play in three acts, also a Manchester Gaiety production, Miss Robins appearing in the part of Bibi Trentwood.

Pantomime Notice.

Notices of several pontomime productions are unavoidably held over. Full reports will appear next week.

"The Southern Maid's" Success.

Mr. Robert Evett watched the opening performance of "The Southern Maid," of the production of which at Manchester on Monday, our correspondent speaks in terms of high praise. In a happy speech from the stage, in the midst of a scene of enthusiasm, Mr. Evett made complimentary reference to Miss José Collins and the other principals of the cast.

The Bristol Flavour.

The Bristol flavour is strong in the "Old King Cole" pantomime, which started on its career on Saturday evening at the Prince's Theatre, for the Western Metropolis is the birthplace of Mr. James C. Logan (the producer), Mr. George R. Chapman (the chef d'orchestre, who has written much of the pretty music), Mr. George Miller (who is appearing as Dame for the third time at the Park Row house), and Miss Sybil Hook (her second time as Fairy there).

Law and Medicine Collaborate.

Although the names of the joint authors of the three-act play, "Blight," recently produced at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, were not disclosed, it was, I am told, written in collaboration by a leading Dublin surgeon and a well-known Dublin barrister.

"Optimists" at Birkenhead.

The New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, was packed on Friday afternoon to greet the cheery "Optimists" (the Liverpool Comrades Concert Party), direct from the Front, who gave a concert in aid of the City Battalions Comforts Fund and the Prisoners of War Fund. Mr. Kelly, acknowledging a vote of thanks, said he celebrated on Sunday the 64th anniversary of his birthday, and that would prove to the audience that he was too old to go out and fight. But he thanked God that he was still young enough to do what he could for those who were fighting.

Red Cross Week at Bath.

As the result of the Red Cross Week performance of "Ann" at the Theatre Royal, Bath, I am informed that a cheque for £182 8s. 9d. has been forwarded by Mrs. Munro to the Red Cross. The gross takings were £304, and the available balance is to be divided between the War Hospital Tobacco Fund, the Christmas Presents for Wounded Soldiers Fund, the Egg Fund, and the Central Local Red Cross Fund.

Liverpool Playhouse.

The annual meeting of the Playhouse, Liverpool, the well-known repertory theatre, was held last week under the chairmanship of Mr. Alec Rea. The chairman said the result of the year's working was a loss of £1,440. He gave as the cause of such a state of affairs the closing of the theatre last summer and the failure of the Christmas attractions to suit the public taste. Matters improved during last spring, and the theatre now had more promise of success under the management of Mr. Max Jerome. He said it should be remembered that theatrical enterprise for some time past had been something of a gamble, and even experienced managers in the country had found their expectations unrealised.

Christmas at Glasgow.

The attraction for Christmas and the New Year at the King's Theatre, Glasgow, is "The Boy," sent out under the auspices of Mr. Alfred Butt. The King's generally manages to get an absolutely new production at this season, and this year is no exception. New dresses, new scenery, a new show, and even a slight fluffiness in the words—all were there. And, after all, there are not so many playgoers who can talk with authority on such plays as Pinero's "Magistrate."

An Over-zealous Special.

An adventure that had its humorous as well as its disagreeable side befell Mme. Karina, who opened with "The Little Match Girl" at Bournemouth on Boxing Day. Mme. Karina had promised to appear at an entertainment in aid of the British Club for Belgian soldiers at the Town Hall, Reading, but got lost in the dense fog. Captain Janssen, her manager, stopped his car at a little place called Wokingham, and inquired of a special constable the way to Reading.

The special was obviously terrified by the formidable lantern used in Madame's performance, which is carried at the side of the car, but gave the required directions, and when the party arrived at Reading they found the whole police force waiting to arrest them as spies. Captain Janssen, who is a Dane, and an ardent pro-Ally, was soon able to put the matter right, and Mme. Karina appeared at the Town Hall late but triumphant.

"Yes, Uncle!"

Saturday next has been finally decided upon for the production of "Yes, Uncle!" at the Prince of Wales's. Messrs. Grossmith and Edward Laurillard are presenting the company formerly at the Gaiety, and they will be associated with Mr. W. H. Dawes, so long manager of the popular Strand house.

"Alice in Wonderland."

Once again Messrs. Stedman's beautiful production, "Alice in Wonderland," is rejoicing the hearts of children of all ages at the Savoy this Christmas. The latest Alice is a very engaging person. Her name is Miss Estelle Dudley, and she goes through her adventures in Wonderland and through the Looking-glass every afternoon with dainty grace, evident enjoyment, and a pretty talent. The Mad Hatter is played once more by Mr. Hayden Coffin with quaint humour and no little pathos. Then there are the jolliest and funniest of twins, Tweedledum and Tweedledee (Mr. Franklyn Vernon and Mr. Harry Hearne), the Duchess with her pepper-loving cook (Miss Amy Fanchette and Miss Gwendoline Temple), the March Hare and the Sleepy Dormouse (Miss Adrienne Paret and Miss Joyce Hawkes) at their unforgettable tea party, the Walrus and the Carpenter (Mr. Graham Herington and Mr. Reginald Ames) playing their "dirty trick" on the dear little Oysters, the anxious White Rabbit (Miss Beryl Leslie), the self-possessed Cheshire Cat (Miss Phyllis Griffiths), and all the other dear things that will remain a link with childhood as long as memory remains. Miss Vera Clarke is the sweetest, daintiest, most exquisite of Oyster Queens, dancing for our infinite delight in the beautiful "Under the Sea" scene in a cave of coral and seaweed and highly accomplished mermaids.

THE DRUID.

"THE PRODIGY."

Farcical Comedy, in Three Acts, by Estelle Barney, Produced at the Court Theatre, Saturday, Dec. 22.

Signora Tomaso ..... Barbara Gott
Mrs. Capper ..... Dorothy Hall
Signor Tomaso ..... Douglas Munro
Beppo ..... Charles Windermere
Porter Champ .. F. Pennington-Gush
Nina Curtice.....Dorothy Holmes-Gore
Maisie ..... Mollie Williams
Mrs. Root ..... Clare Manifield
Louis Napoleon Root.....G. E. Robson
The Nurse ..... Meta Pelham
Nancy Whitfield .... Valerie Wyngate
Mills ..... Robert Rivers
Mary ..... Flora Courtenay
Policeman .... Lawrence J. Lawrence

"The Prodigy" is one of those unfortunate creatures blessed with genius, who have to remain eternally young in order to win the admiration and the shekels of an undiscriminating public. William Brown, 'cellist, has grown to man's estate, but is still billed as Beppo, the boy-wonder. His diminutive stature enables him to don golden curls, velvet Fauntleroy suit, and buckled shoes with success, but his man's heart is caught in the toils of love, and forthwith his disguise becomes odious to him. Nina Curtice, his adored one, governess to the only child of an American millionaire, admires the prodigy, who yearns to appear before her in man's clothing. His desire is thwarted by his reputed parents, a common, good-natured couple, who run the show, and another admirer of Nina's, Porter Champ, as it is to the interest of the three to keep up the deception. Beppo is taken off to Maisie's nursery to play with the little girl, and there, by a rather clumsy contrivance, he is unmasked, earns the gratitude and patronage of the millionaire, and the hand and heart of gentle Nina.

Some of the fun is a little hackneyed—the command of the "old dragon of a nurse" that Master Beppo shall come with her to be bathed, the over-large suit of Champ's into which he changes, for example, but it is all harmless and inoffensive, and most of it is very good fun indeed, fit both for children and for grown-ups.

Mr. Charles Windermere puts some very clever work into the part of the Prodigy, and is ably supported by Miss Dorothy Holmes-Gore, most pleasing as Nina; by Miss Barbara Gott and Mr. Douglas Munro, excellent as his fellow-conspirators; by Miss Clare Manifield and Mr. G. E. Robson, as the Americans; and by little Miss Mollie Williams as their precocious but attractive child, Maisie. Miss Dorothy Hall and Mr. Lawrence J. Lawrence were excellent in small parts.

"A KISS FOR CINDERELLA."

The first performance of a revival for the Christmas holidays of Sir James M. Barrie's play, "A Kiss for Cinderella," at the Queen's Theatre on Thursday afternoon, was honoured by the presence of the Queen, who was accompanied by Princess Mary, Prince Henry, and Prince George. The proceeds are to be devoted to the Queen's Hospital at Frognal for sailors and soldiers suffering from facial and jaw injuries.

The play was originally produced at Wyndham's Theatre in March, 1916, and was revived last Christmas by Mr. Percy Hutchison. Miss Hilda Trevelyan has, happily, been able to resume her old part of Cinderella, and that she plays it in the same delightful style as of yore may be taken for granted. In the other all-important rôle, that of the policeman, who is later transformed into Prince Charming, Mr. Percy Hutchison again meets with the success such an excellent portrayal fully merits. Mr. Will Smith was particularly good in the part of Danny, and in other characters valuable support is given by Mr. William Lugg, Mr. Chas. B. Bedells, Miss Madge Murray, Miss Lilian Constance, and others.

Before the performance began on Thursday, Mr. Hayden Coffin sang the National Anthem, and in the first interval Miss Madge Titheradge recited the stirring poem, "For England." During the second interval Miss Marie Löhr gave most effectively a poem specially written for the occasion by Mr. Louis N. Parker.

The successful production, "Brewster's Millions," still holds its place in the evening bill at this theatre.

NEW "PETER PAN" PRINCIPALS.

A new Wendy and a new Peter Pan! An event, this, in the annals of Christmastide. An undertaking on the part of the two talented young actresses who this year challenge comparison with the unforgettable Peter of Miss Nina Boucicault or the most widely known and popular Peter of Miss Pauline Chase, and the exquisite Wendy of Miss Hilda Trevelyan. Perhaps the children are the severest critics, for to them Peter and Wendy and the other wonderful Barrie creations, Captain Hook, and Michael, and Nana, the dog nurse, and John and Smee, and all the others, are real people who hide themselves (probably at school) during the rest of the year, and materialise at Christmas. Let it be chronicled at once that Miss Fay Compton's Peter is a truly delightful performance, owing little or nothing to any Peters that have gone before, but redolent with personality, charm, feeling. In addition, she makes, of course, the jolliest, prettiest boy to look at, with her red curls, and her blue eyes, and her mutinous mouth, not to mention those lovely slender nether limbs of hers. And Miss Isobel Elsom, too, is a bewitching Wendy, simple and sweet, and the two of them play together quite delightfully.

The Captain Hook of Mr. E. Holman Clark is too well known to need further comment, save that it seems to get richer in fun each year. Miss Stella Campbell and Mr. Martin Lewis are most satisfactory as the parents of the three Darlings. Mr. George Shelton's Smee, Mr. Hugh E. Wright's Starkey, Miss Vesta Sylva's Michael, Miss Pauline Prim's Nana, Miss Netta Westcott's Tiger Lily, are all joyous things in the most joyous of all Christmas productions.

Mr. Norman V. Norman will play again in "David Garrick" for a few weeks at Christmas. Miss Beatrice Wilson will be unable to appear as Ada Ingot owing to family bereavement, and Mr. Norman has engaged Miss Elsie Goulding to sustain the part.

THE ERA ANNUAL

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DOES THE MAN IN THE STREET LIKE SHAKESPEARE? By Ben Greet.
CAN ENGLISH GIRLS DANCE? By Adeline Genée.
ROMANTIC PLAYS IN THE FUTURE. By Doris Keane.
DO AUDIENCES KNOW TOO MUCH? By Weedon Grossmith.
PROPS. FOR THE FRONT. By Willy Clarkson.
VIEWS ON INTERVIEWS. By Nora Delany.
STARS I HAVE IMITATED. By Robert Hale.
ACTING BETWEEN THE ACTS. By Matheson Lang.
WORDS ON WAR-PLAYS. By Arthur Bourchier.
THE SINGLE TURN'S RETURN. By Marie Lloyd.
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"BLUEBELL IN FAIRYLAND."

Mr. Oswald Stoll has done well to present Messrs. Seymour Hicks and Walter Slaughter's musical dream play at the Alhambra this year. "Bluebell" has been brought up-to-date, with new numbers by Herman Darewski, and new lyrics by Clifford Grey, and the many topical references were much appreciated. The scenery and dresses are artistic and tasteful, and the dances, arranged by Miss Elise Clerc, particularly the Autumn Leaves Ballet, were cleverly executed.

Miss Ellaline Terriss again plays Bluebell, the little London flower-girl, who, in a dream, roams through Fairyland, and very sweetly she acts throughout. Miss Terriss sang "I Want You Just as Much as You Want Me," excellently, and "The House that Jack Built" was another of her successes. "Fumbs Up," with a chorus of real diminutive "Fumbs uppers," was another hit. Mr. Harry Phydora and Mr. Johnny Danvers, as the two footmen, and later as "the two sun boys" (with song of that title), were responsible for most of the fun. Mr. Dan Agar as Dicky (a crossing-sweeper) played with just the right touch, and sang well his two numbers in the second scene, "'Ackney with the 'Ouses Took Away" and "If They Make Me King of England." Mr. J. C. Buckstone as the King, and earlier as Mr. Joplin, acted cleverly, and Miss Elizabeth Watson was good as the Queen. Miss Mabel Hicks made a charming Fairy, Miss Alice Coombe as "The Water Lily" sang a pretty "Dreamland" number, and Master John Coy was a delightful Cat ("Peter"), whilst Miss Cissie Leonard and Miss Vera Howick as Bluebell's sisters, played very sweetly.

Miss Esme Holderness, in a "Will o' the Wisp" dance, Miss Ena Clermont and Miss Sylvia Asham in a clever Fox and Goose Dance were very popular.

"THE HAPPY FAMILY."

On Christmas Eve afternoon Arthur Aldin's production of Cecil Aldin and Adrian Ross's "The Happy Family," with music by Cuthbert Clark, who conducts the orchestra, and produced by W. G. Fay, with dances by Gladys Dillon, was received with hearty applause at the Strand.

To the youngsters it will be a sheer delight, and an undiluted joy. Very charming are the series of capital revue numbers, all contributed by the children, in which the pas seul by Miss Edna Maude, a dainty and fairylike dancer, gains golden opinions. The little Hollander of Miss Audrey Hughes is clever, quaint, and pleasing in the extreme. A song about Bertie of Burlington-street, was excellently rendered by Miss Ruby Lister.

An emphatic success was scored by Irene and Rosaline Andrews in an impression from "Bubbly" (the quarrelling duet), also the admirable sextette by Ivy Pole, Primrose Morgan, Kathleen West, Vera Carr, Muriel Stevens, and Phyllis Hart, the solo by Rene Lister, and "Rag-time Dolly," capitally sung by Ivy Pole.

Miss Dorothy Minto is very pert and alert, and has a good song, "The Lady Gardener"; Charles Groves, as the butler Upton, is excellent in a characteristic story; Elaine Inescort is very natural as the dour housekeeper; Minnie Crawford sings and dances most attractively as Babs, her "In the Swim" song being especially good. Master Leonard De Renzi as Jack, George Hamilton as Bob, and Fabia Drake, a graceful Bibs, are well in the picture.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."

It was evident from the enthusiastic greeting given to this famous comedy by a large audience at the Savoy on Saturday afternoon, that its power to amuse is as great as ever. The dry humour of Mr. Charles R. Walenn as the Rev. Robert Spalding provoked unlimited mirth, and Mr. Roy Byford as Mr. Cattermole, was "great" in more senses than one; the laughter raised when these two were on the stage together tending to impede the performance. Mr. George Morgan gave a perfectly natural performance as Douglas Cattermole; Mr. Magill Martin was admirable as Mr. Marsland, Mr. Barrington Foote was very good as the aspiring tailor, Sydney Gibson; and Mr. Jack Livesey was competent as Harry Marsland. Miss Dora Gregory was responsible for a very fine, consistent and able portraiture as Miss Ashford, the spiritualistic crank; Miss Winifred James and Miss Phyllis Stuckey were a pretty and fascinating pair as Eva Webster and Edith Marsland; and Miss Bertha Northam's character sketch of Mrs. Stead was most praiseworthy.

"The Private Secretary," which is to be played nightly, was preceded by "Doorstep," with Miss Christine Silver in the title-rôle.

PANTOMIME

Definitely selected by the principal Pantomime Producers for this year's Pantomimes,

DREAM BOAT

A Charming Ballad by IVOR NOVELLO,

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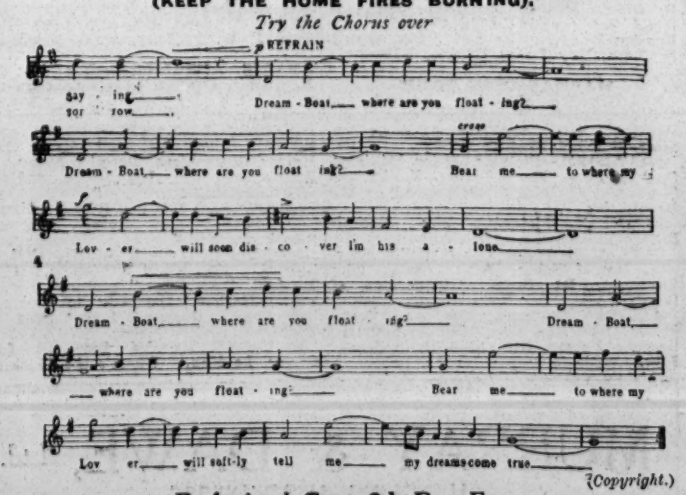

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LOVE, COME FROM YOUR HIDING-PLACE

The Song which created a furore in Messrs. Howard & Wyndham's Pantomime at Edinboro', sung by MISS HEBE BLISS.
Sung with immense success by MISS FLORENCE SMITHSON at Theatre Royal, Manchester;
MISS HAIDEE DE RANCE at Liverpool; MISS QUEENIE FINNIS at T.R., Nottingham; MISS ELSA COWIE at Prince's, Bristol; &c., &c.

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HERE'S Health and Prosperity to those Members of the Profession whose arduous business it is to Work for our Pleasure and offer us Good Cheer when we need Good Cheer. May 1918 see Good Engagements and Long Runs for the brave-hearted Thespians, who alone among their fellows have at times to face the ordeal of entertaining others when they themselves are suffering from "the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune." Here's to those men and women who always bear us Good Company throughout the days of our life, come fair weather or foul. May they so prosper during the coming year as to be able to enjoy an ever-welcome holiday at Home in the company of those they love the best. And may it be my supreme pleasure to contribute my share towards the fulfilment of that Home-life which reminds us that the wearer of the motley is, above all things, a MAN.

Yours with All Goodwill, M. Pearl.

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THE PROFESSION WITH THE COLOURS

Harvey Waters, junr., a sergeant in the U.S.A. Army, and nephew of Tom Waters, of Waters & Morris, is somewhere in France.

L. Freeman (Mysticus) informs us that he has a small concert party who can almost any evening give shows in the London area, or near by, to the wounded or other Service men, whether at barracks or Y.M.C.A.s. Full particulars can be had, or arrangements for concerts made, through him at 2, Boscombe-road, Shepherd's Bush, London, W. 12 (by letter). At Christmas the party will not be free. Mysticus has been giving shows at various places since he came over in 1914 with the 1st Canadians.

Private Bert Skegg writes that since he came back from leave he has been made full corporal, and his address is, 35809, Corpl. Bert Skegg, A. Coy., 20th K.L.R., B.E.F., France. He adds: "When I was home on leave I saw most of my professional friends. You will no doubt be surprised to know that Louis Bradfield's son is a lieutenant in this battalion. He has been with us now about eighteen months—the same time as myself. Hoping to hear from my friends in the profession very soon."

THE MUSIC CLUB.

Madame Marguerite D'Alvarez, who was entertained at a reception and concert given in her honour by the Music Club at the Savoy Hotel last Wednesday, was herself a most welcome contributor to the programme of the afternoon's music. The distinguished contralto sang a group of songs by Handel, Franck, and Débussy, with all the luscious beauty of tone and perfect artistry which she has taught us to expect from her. The concert was also noteworthy for the first performance of a pianoforte quintett by Mr. Arnold Bax, a work of considerable interest and many moments of imaginative beauty. But its chances of frequent future hearings would be greatly increased by its being condensed to a third of its length. It was beautifully played by the composer, at the pianoforte, and by Messrs. Désiré Defauw, Richard C. Kay, Raymond Jeremy, and Emile Doehardt.

ROYAL VICTORIA HALL.

The Royal Victoria Hall, better known as the "Old Vic," has provided seasonable fare by a revival of "A Christmas Carol," in addition to which has been produced a revue, entitled "Seaman's Pie," by Messrs. Russell Thorndike, E. A. Ross, and Sybil Thorndike. Into this are introduced several songs and dances, some clever imitations of Mrs. Patrick Campbell and Mr. James Carew, and a burlesque of "Ghosts." Indeed, the audience finds plenty to laugh at and to applaud. The cast includes Mr. Russell Thorndike, the Misses Thorndike, Mary Sumner, Florence Saunders, and Messrs. Mark Stanley, E. A. Ross, Wilfred Lyndon, and Ben Greet.

The Queen has given her patronage to an "Old Vic." matinée which is to take place at the Lyric on Friday, January 11, and at which many of our leading artistes have promised to appear.

CHARLEY'S AUNT CLUB.

The fifth annual social of the club, at the Royal Albert Hall Theatre on Sunday last, brought together a goodly company, which included the president, Mrs. Brandon Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Compton, Messrs. Cecil Barth, Geo. Botell, Ray Byford, and Arthur Helmore. Mr. Barth announced during the evening that 45 old members of the club were in H.M. Forces, and a wire was received from Lieut. Brandon Thomas at the Front, wishing the club all success. The occasion was marked by the production of a sketch by Nita Faydon, entitled

"THE CLEVER ONE."

Monica Nugent .... Miss Grace Arnold
Sybil Nugent ..... Miss Edna Best
Maid ..... Miss Irene Arnold

This trifle was remarkable for some smart dialect between two sisters, one in love with a police clerk and the other full of disdain and disparagement of her sister's love affairs. The disdainful one gains possession of a purse which she imagines has been stolen from her, but finds her own is at home. The police clerk arrives, she thinks to arrest her, but in reality to see her sister, and upon extracting a promise from the latter to use her influence with the Force, the police clerk is welcomed into the bosom of the family. The sketch was exceedingly well acted.

The other sketch on the programme was Cosmo Hamilton's "Soldier's Daughters," very cleverly enacted by Miss Amy Brandon Thomas as Pamela, and Miss Marjorie Chard as Helen. An entertaining programme included contributions from Mr. Tito Barberoli and Miss Dorothea Walenn, Miss Marjorie Griffin, Mr. Albert Wilson, and Miss Foster and Mr. Reginald Goode.

BEN GREET ACADEMY.

The students of the Ben Greet Academy gave a performance at the Bijou, Bedford-street, on the afternoon of the 14th inst. Included in the well-varied programme were the Quarrel and Screen scenes from "The School for Scandal," the first act of "Fanny's First Play," and "Feed the Brute." Miss Margot Grenville did exceedingly well in the several characters of Sir Peter, Mrs. Gilbey, and Mrs. Pottle. Miss Doriee Nicholls scored as Lady Teazle, and also as Mrs. Wilks in George Paston's one-act play. Miss Lottye Ford was a capital Charles Surface, and created a favourable impression by her Dora in Shaw's play. These three ladies have recently had the satisfaction of securing professional engagements. Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn deputised for Mr. Harold Cooke, who was to have played Mr. Gilbey, and complete satisfaction was given by Mr. Basil Rayne as Joseph Surface, Juggins, and Samuel Pottle. In addition to these performances, dances were contributed by Misses Belle Davey and Enid St. Ruth and Little Thelma; recitations by Misses Nicholls and Ida Hampson; and songs by Misses Dorothy Stafford and Frances Murray.

Mr. Arthur Taylor has been appointed musical director at the Empire, Wolverhampton. He is a gentleman of much experience, having been engaged in a similar capacity at Camden Town, Kilburn, Kingston-on-Thames, &c.

"A SOUTHERN MAID."

Musical Play, by Dion Clayton Calthrop and Harry Graham, lyrics by Harry Graham, additional lyrics by Adrian Ross, music by H. Fraser-Simson, Produced by Oscar Asche at the Prince's Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, December 24, 1917.

Sir Willoughby Rawdon ..... Claude Flemming
Walter Wex ..... Tom A. Shale
Todo ..... William Spray
Lady Julia Chichester .... Jessie Fraser
Lady Mendle ..... Therese Mills
The Hon. Clementine Harwich ..... Honor Byrne
Mrs. Duff-Brassington .. Edith Wright
Miss Viola Bulkenough ..... Muriel Moreton
Miss Daisy Norton ..... Glory O'Shea
Lord Toshington ..... Kenneth Kove
The Hon. Bertie Talc.. Teddy Desmond
Francesco del Fuego .. Frederick Ross
Chiquita ..... Jessie Lonnen
Dolores ..... José Collins

The George Edwardes' production of "A Southern Maid" at the Prince's Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, is full of colour and romance, with a dash of drama which has its thrilling moments. The maid of the title is a Southern beauty named Dolores, with whom the picturesque villain of the piece, Francesco del Fuego, is desperately in love. At the critical period of their betrothal, Sir Willoughby Rawdon, the owner of the San Paolo Plantation, steps ashore and immediately succumbs to the more interesting attractions of Dolores, who is attracted to Sir Willoughby in return. Consumed with jealousy and rage, Francesco endeavours to get rid of his rival by reviving an old vendetta against the Rawdon family. Sir Willoughby, however, in his cool and resourceful English way, is not sufficiently perturbed to let Francesco spoil his love-making. The story works itself out in three irreproachable acts of brilliant entertainment, with a satisfactory denouement, and set in a trio of beautiful stage pictures, the Market Place of San Gorgio, a café, and an orange grove, all from the brush of Joseph Harker.

Dolores is (one might say literally) Miss José Collins, for no other personality could fit the part with such physical and temperamental exactitude. Of her many songs, "Cigarette" is conspicuously popular, and another fine number is "Every Bit of Loving." Other special numbers are "I Want the Sun and Moon" and "If I Had Known What I Know Now." Mr. Claude Flemming's manly depiction of Sir Willoughby Rawdon is much admired, while the contrasting figure of Francesco del Fuego is presented with picturesque vigour by Mr. Frederick Ross. Of Mr. Tom A. Shale, a capable comedian, one must say that he is only short of opportunities as the plantation manager, Walter Wex; while Mr. William Spray does well in the comedy rôle of Todo, proprietor of the café, supplemented by the lively efforts of Miss Jessie Lonnen as Chiquita, Francesco's daughter.

ON THE ROAD.

[Will Managers kindly send in their Tour Lists for insertion in "On the Road" by Tuesday morning in each week?]

PLAYS.

Abbott, Ernest.—Dec. 24, T.R., Macclesfield; 31, Prince's, Llandudno.
Aladdin (Bannister Howard).—Dec. 26, O.H., Southport.
Aladdin (Lola Charme's Co.).—Dec. 24, Pavilion, Ayr; 31, Gaiety, Methil.
Aladdin (Marie Santoi).—Dec. 24, T.R., West Bromwich.
All Clear.—Dec. 26, Empire, Preston.
Allington Charsley Rep. Co.—Dec. 24, R.C.T., Wigan.
All-of-a-Sudden Peggy.—Dec. 24, Peterborough (3), King's Lynn (3).
Ann, Beauchamp and Beecham (Haldane Crichton).—Dec. 24, T.R., Bury St. Edmunds; 31, T.R., Bury St. Edmunds.
Apple of Eden, The.—Dec. 31, Prince's, Portsmouth.
Arcadians, The (Courtneidge, No. 1).—Dec. 24, Grand, Northampton; 31, Empire, Wakefield.
Austin (Mary) Co.—Dec. 31, Prince's, Blackburn.
Back Home in Tennessee.—Dec. 24, T.R., Wolverhampton; 31, T.R., Jarrow.
Better 'Ole, The.—Dec. 24, O.H., Blackpool; 31, Empire, Preston.
Betty (George Edwardes). — Dec. 24, Gaiety, Hastings; 31, Dev. P.T., Eastbourne.
Betty (Macdonald & Young).—Dec. 24, T.R., Norwich; 31, T.R., King's Lynn (3), Peterborough (3).
Black Sheep of the Family, The.—Dec. 24, T.R., Barnsley; 31, T.R., Barnsley.
Boy Blue (Barney Armstrong's Co.).—Dec. 27, Empire, Dublin.
Boy, The.—Dec. 24, King's, Glasgow.
Carl Rosa Opera Co., The. Dec. 26, T.R., Halifax; 31, T.R., Blackburn.
Carminetta (N. Graham and E. Waller).—Dec. 22, H.M.T., Dundee (9); 31, H.M.T., Dundee (5).
Casey (Will) Co.—Dec. 24, Hippodrome, Wednesbury; 31, Coliseum, Ilkestone.
Christian, The.—Dec. 31, New T., Salisbury.
Cinderella (Fred Clement's Co.).—Dec. 24, T.R., Bath; 31, T.R., Bath.
Cinderella (Geo. Bryndon Phillips' Co.).—Dec. 24, County, Reading; 31, T.R., Aldershot.
Cinderella (Jazon and Montgomery).—Dec. 26, T.R., Birkenhead; 31, T.R., Birkenhead.
Come Back to Erin.—Dec. 31, Palace, Weston-super-Mare.
Cottage Girl, The.—Dec. 24, Gaiety, Birmingham; 31, Palace, Barnoldswick.
Crossley (Stephen) Co.—Dec. 24, T.R., Seaham Harbour.
Daddy Long-Legs.—Dec. 24, Lyceum, Sheffield; 31, Lyceum, Sheffield.
Daddy Long-Legs (Gilbert Miller's Co.).—Dec. 24, T.R., Birkenhead.
Daddy's Girl.—Dec. 24, T.R., South Shields; 31, Gaiety, Houghton-le-Spring.
Damaged Goods (East Co.).—Dec. 24, Queen's, Farnworth; 31, King's, Gainsborough (3).
Damaged Goods (South Co.).—Dec. 24, Empire, Sunderland; 31, T.R., Darlington.
Damaged Goods (West Co.).—Dec. 24, Pavilion, Mile End; 31, T.R., Southend.
Dick Whittington (Walter Bishop's Co.).—Dec. 24, Hippodrome, Nottingham; 31, Hippodrome, Nottingham.
Dobell's (W. L.) Repertory Company.—Dec. 31, Theatre, Clonmel.
D'Oyly Carte Opera Co.—Dec. 26, P.O.W., Birmingham; 31, P.O.W., Birmingham.
Edmonds (E. Vivian) Co.—Dec. 24, Prince's, Blackburn; 31, Alexander, Widnes.
Eliza Comes to Stay.—Dec. 24, T.R., Lincoln; 31, O.H., Burton-on-Trent.
End of the Game, The.—Dec. 31, Playhouse, Llanelleth.
Fatal Wedding, The.—Dec. 24, T.R., Scarborough; 31, T.R., Crook.
Fishermaid of Old St. Malo, The.—Dec. 24, Hippodrome, Wrexham.
For Love and the King.—Dec. 24, T.R., Oldham.
Frank Liston.—Dec. 24, T.R., Scarborough; 31, T.R., Crook.
Gayest of the Gay, The.—Dec. 24, Hippodrome, Bolton; 31, Victoria T., Brighton.
Ghosts.—Dec. 24, Palace, Rawtenstall.
Ghosts.—Dec. 24, Alexandra, Widnes.
Girl from Ciro's (N. Graham and E. Waller's Co.).—Dec. 31, Empire, Swindon.
Girl Mother, The.—Dec. 24, Gaiety, Houghton-le-Spring; 31, T.R., Stratford.
Glenville (Matthew H.).—Dec. 24, T.R., South Shields; 31, Gaiety, Houghton-le-Spring.
Happy Day, The.—Dec. 24, O.H., Burnley.
Heart of a Thief, The.—Dec. 24, T.R., Stratford, E.; 31, Hippodrome, Eastbourne.
Henry Brinton's Repertory Co.—Dec. 24, New T., Salisbury; 31, Pavilion, Weymouth.
Henry L. Osmond.—Dec. 24, T.R., Bury; 31, Rochdale.
Her Favourite Son.—Dec. 24, Empire, Tonypandy.
Herbert Shelley.—Dec. 24, Victoria, Kettering; 31, Peterborough (3), St. Albans (3).
Her Forbidden Sacrifice.—Dec. 31, T.R., Bilston.
High Jinks (J. A. P. Malone's Co.).—Dec. 24, T.R., Huddersfield.
His Last Leave.—Dec. 24, Palace, Durham; 31, T.R., South Shields.
His Mother's Rosary.—Dec. 24, T.R., Crook.
His Wife's Good Name.—Dec. 24, Hippodrome, Wednesbury.
Humpty-Dumpty (Wm. de Lacy).—Dec. 22, Metropole, Bootle; 31, Hippodrome, Huddersfield.
In the Trenches.—Dec. 24, Hippodrome, Aston; 31, Collins's, London.
Irish Players, The.—Dec. 24, T.R., Limerick; 31, T.R., Wexford.
Jack and Jill (Edelsten and Burns).—Dec. 24, Hippodrome, Sheffield.
Jenny Omroyd of Oldham.—Dec. 24, T.R., Jarrow; 31, T.R., Scarborough.
Just a Little Pair of Shoes.—Dec. 24, T.R., Liverpool.
Kick-In.—Dec. 31, T.R., Whitehaven.
King's Vale Mystery, The.—Dec. 24, Victoria, Kettering.
Kingston's (W. B.) Rep. Co.—Dec. 24, Loanhead; 31, Institute, Inverness.
Knowles (J. Forbes) Rep. Co.—Dec. 24, Hippodrome, Bolton; 31, Victoria, Broughton.
Lass of Dingley Moor.—Dec. 24, Victoria, Kettering; 31, Peterborough (3), St. Albans (3).
Leonard Rep. Co.—Dec. 24, Spa O.H., Bridlington; 31, Spa Opera House, Bridlington.
Lifeguardsman, The.—Dec. 31, T.R., Norwich.
Little Bo-Peep (Harry McKelvie's Co.).—Dec. 26, T.R., Bolton.
Little Goody Two Shoes.—Dec. 24, T.R., Bury; 31, T.R., Rochdale.
Little Grey Home in the West.—Dec. 24, Empire, Garston; 31, T.R., Liverpool.
Little Minister, The.—Dec. 31, T.R., Norwich.
Love Marriage, A.—Dec. 24, T.R., Stanley; 31, Globe, Consett.
Lodge-Percy Rep. Co.—Dec. 24, Alexandra, Pontefract; 31, Hippodrome, Cannock.
Maid of the Midnight Sun.—Dec. 26, H.M.T., Carlisle; 31, Alhambra, Stirling.
Maid of the Mountains.—Dec. 24, T.R., Brighton; 31, T.R., Brighton.
Marriage Market, The.—Dec. 24, O.H., Dudley; 31, T.R., Merthyr.
Merely Mary Ann.—Dec. 24, New, Salisbury.
Middy, V.C., Comes Home.—Dec. 24, Grand, Luton.
Mill Girl's Wedding, A.—Dec. 24, Victoria, Kettering; 31, Peterborough (3), St. Albans (3).
Millane (Joseph) Co.—Dec. 24, Empire, Mountain Ash.
Mollusc, The.—Dec. 24, Runnacleave T., Ilfracombe.
Monty's Flapper.—Dec. 24, T.R., Windsor; 31, T.R., Windsor.
Mother Hubbard (Cromo and Hamilton).—Dec. 24, T.R., Chatham; 31, T.R., Chatham.
Mother's Sacrifice, A.—Dec. 24, Hippodrome, Wednesbury.
Mr. Barnes of New York.—Dec. 24, Metropole, Glasgow.
Mr. Mayfair.—Dec. 24, T.R., Winchester; 31, O.H., Buxton.
My Bonny Jean.—Dec. 24, T.R., Inverness; 31, Town Hall, Elgin.
My Home in Kentucky.—Dec. 24, T.R., Middlesbrough; 31, T.R., West Stanley.
My Lady Frayle.—Dec. 24, T.R., Aldershot.
O'Brien and Ireland's Rep. Co.—Dec. 26, Society Hall, Queenstown (6).
Octoroon, The.—Dec. 31, T.R., North Shields.
Oh, I Say!—Dec. 24, Grand, West Hartlepool.
Only a Mill Girl.—Dec. 24, R.C.T., Bacup.
Ormond (Fred) Co.—Dec. 24, Hippodrome, Wrexham; 31, Hippodrome, Wrexham.
Our Kid.—Dec. 24, O.H., Wakefield.
Peg o' My Heart (Macdonald and Young).—Dec. 24, King's Lynn (3); Peterborough (3); 31, T.R., Colchester.
Phillips' (H. B.) Opera Co. — Dec. 26, Shakespeare, Liverpool.
Pitman's Daughters, A.—Dec. 24, T.R., Stanley; 31, Globe, Consett.
Pride of the Regiment.—Dec. 24, Palace, Bordesley; 31, Palace, Bordesley.
Quinneys'.—Dec. 24, Grand, Lancaster.
Raynor Rep. Co.—Dec. 24, County, Shrewsbury; 31, T.R., Lincoln.
Red Riding Hood (Andie Caine's Co.).—Dec. 24, Osborne, Manchester.
Red Riding Hood (Geo. T. Minshull's Co.).—Dec. 24, R.C.T., Liverpool.
Ridding (John) Opera Co.—Dec. 24, King's, Kirkcaldy; 31, Savoy Palace, Forfar.
Robin Hood and the Babes in the Wood (Francis Laidler's).—Dec. 26, Prince's, Bradford.
Robin Hood; or, Babes in the Wood.—Dec. 24, Hippodrome, Liverpool; 31, Hippodrome, Liverpool.
Robinson Crusoe (Ernest Dottridge's Co.).—Dec. 24, T.R., Leamington; 31, Regent, Salford.

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Vine, Mr. Douglas
Vyvyan, Miss Mollie
Wade, Standley
Wade, Miss Emmie
Walker, Miss Beatrice
Walsh, Mr. Fred
Walsh, Mr. Shelford
Ward, Mr. Albert
Warwick, Mrs. Clara
Waterman, Miss Gertrude
Waterman, Mr. Ernest George
West and Tate, Messrs.
Whitty, Mr. C.
Whyte, Mr. Andrew
Williams, Mr. Grafton
Williams, Mr. Henry
Willson, Mr. Arthur
Woodger, Capt. B. H. P.
Woodward, Mr. H.
Wright, Mr. Huntley
Wright, Mr. Jack
Wynn, Miss Bessie
Yorke, Mr. Augustus

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Robinson Crusoe (Murray King and Clark).—Dec. 24, Dev. P.T., Eastbourne.
Robinson Crusoe (Moreton and Heath's Co.).—Dec. 24, T.R., Bournemouth.
Roll of Honour.—Dec. 24, Junction, Manchester.
Rolling Stone, The.—Dec. 24, T.R., Seaham Harbour.
Romance.—Dec. 24, Empire, Wakefield; 31, Palace, Gloucester.
Rotters, The (Arthur Gibbons).—Dec. 24, Pavilion, Weston-super-Mare; 31, Bridgwater.
Sally in Society. — Dec. 24, Hippodrome, Hulme; 31, Queen's Park Hippodrome, Manchester.
Seven Days' Leave (Red Co.).—Dec. 26, Grand, Swansea; 31, Grand, Swansea.
Seven Days' Leave (White Co.).—Dec. 26, New T., Cambridge; 31, Hippodrome, Stockton.
Sinbad the Sailor (Watson). — Dec. 24, Regent, Salford; 31, King's, Sunderland.
Somewhere a Voice is Calling.—Dec. 24, Empire, Mountain Ash.
Southern Maid, A (George Edwardes' Co.).—Dec. 24, Prince's, Manchester; 31, Prince's, Manchester.
Spirit of the Empire, The.—Dec. 24, T.R., Coatbridge.
Sweethearts.—Dec. 24, King's, Gainsborough.
Theodore and Co. (Grossmith and Laurillard).—Dec. 24, Lyceum, Edinburgh; 31, Lyceum, Edinburgh.
Three Weeks (North Co.).—Dec. 26, O.H., Coventry; 31, O.H., Coventry.
Three Weeks (South Co.).—Dec. 24, Empire, Southend; 31, O.H., Buxton.
Tommy Trotter.—Dec. 24, Pavilion, Glasgow.
To-Night's the Night.—Dec. 24, Lyceum, Ipswich.
Toto.—Dec. 31, Empire, Rotherham.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—Dec. 24, Cambridge T., Spennymoor; 31, T.R., North Shields.
Under Two Flags (Lodge-Percy).—Dec. 31, Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland.
Wallace (G. Carlton).—Dec. 24, Grand, Pentre.
Ward (T. Edward).—Dec. 24, Grand, Luton.
What Happened to Jones.—Dec. 24, Hippodrome, Golder's Green.
Wife for a Day, A.—Dec. 24, T.R., Stratford, E.; 31, Hippodrome, Eastbourne.
Within the Law.—Dec. 24, Whitehaven.
Young Minister, The (No. 1 Co.).—Dec. 24, Grand, Stockton; 31, Opera House, Dudley.

REVUES.

Airs and Graces.—Dec. 24, Palace, Hull.
All Bluff.—Dec. 24, T.R., Ashton-under-Lyne; 31, Eden, Bishop Auckland.
All British.—Dec. 24, Empire, Camberwell.
Bing Boys are Here, The.—Dec. 24, Grand, Southampton.
Blighty.—Dec. 24, County, St. Albans; 31, Grand, Gravesend.
Bubble and Squeak.—Dec. 31, Empire, Middlesbrough.
Bubbly.—Dec. 24, T.R., York.
Bunch of Beauty, A.—Dec. 26, T.R., Worcester.
Carnival Girl, The.—Dec. 24, Lyric, Liverpool; 31, New Brighton.
Ciro's Frolics.—Dec. 24, Hippodrome, Birkenhead.
Coloured Society.—Dec. 31, Empire, Bristol.
Crackers.—Dec. 24, T.R., Woolwich; 31, T.R., Woolwich.
Don't Tempt Me.—Dec. 31, T.R., Wolverhampton.
Dream Girl, The.—Dec. 24, T.R., Aston.
Flying Colours.—Dec. 24, King's, Gateshead; 31, Empire, Swansea.
Frills and Drills.—Dec. 24, Palace, East Ham; 31, Hippodrome, Poplar.
Frills and Fancies.—Dec. 24, Tivoli, Hull; 31, Palace, Grimsby.
From Pekin to Paris.—Dec. 24, Pavilion, Rhos.
Good-Bye-ee.—Dec. 24, Empire, Cardiff; 31, Hippodrome, Richmond.
Hanky-Panky.—Dec. 24, P.G.T., Folkestone; 31, P.G.T., Folkestone.
Happy Days.—Dec. 24, Palace, Bradford.
Heave O! (No. 1 Co.).—Dec. 24, New T., Crewe.
Heave O! (No. 2 Co.).—Dec. 24, Borough T., Stafford; 31, Coatbridge.
Hello, Baby!—Dec. 24, Hereford.
High Explosives.—Dec. 24, Empire, Longton.
Hold Tight!—Dec. 24, Coliseum, Goole; 31, Hippodrome, Selby.
Kodak Girl.—Dec. 24, Hippodrome, Devonport; 31, Empire, Newport.
Lads of the Village, The.—Dec. 24, Palace, Tottenham.
Mumming Birds.— Dec. 24, Hippodrome, Belfast; 31, T.R., Dublin.
My Son Sammy.—Dec. 24, King's, Longsight; 31, Altrincham.
Next, Please.—Dec. 24, Hippodrome, Salford; 31, Lyric, Liverpool.
Night of Brightness.—Dec. 24, T.R., Yarmouth; 31, Marina, Lowestoft.
Ocean Waves.—Dec. 24, Empire, Liverpool.
Odds On!—Dec. 24, Palace, Walthamstow.
Peaches (No. 1 Co.).—Dec. 31, Empire, Burnley.
Picture Girl, The (Bellamy No. 1 Co.).—Dec. 24, T.R., Leigh; 31, Grand, Nelson.
Pleasure Bound.—Dec. 24, Hippodrome, Balham.
Ship Ahoy!—Dec. 24, Town Hall, Stafford; 31, T.R., Coatbridge.
S'Hush!—Dec. 24, Empire, Rotherham; 31, Hippodrome, Hyde.
Smile!—Dec. 24, Empire, Leeds; 31, Palace, Hull.
Some Girls.—Dec. 24, Hippodrome, Chesterfield; 31, Hippodrome, Manchester.
Some Treasure.—Dec. 24, Queen's, Poplar; 31, County, Shrewsbury.
Sugar Baby, The.—Dec. 31, Grand, Clapham.
Tiddley-Winks.—Dec. 24, Hippodrome, Nuneaton; 31, Tivoli, Hull.
Topsy-Turvy.—Dec. 24, Hippodrome, Newcastle; 31, Hippodrome, Leeds.
Vanity Fair.—Dec. 24, Empire, Bristol; 31, Empire, Bristol.
Wait a Minute.—Dec. 24, Pavilion, Pontnewynyd.
We're All In It!—Dec. 26, Globe, Deal; 31, Alhambra, Stourbridge.
Where's the Chicken?—Dec. 24, Tivoli, Aberdeen; 31, Empire, Wolverhampton.
Whirl of the Town, The.—Dec. 24, Coliseum, Long Eaton; 31, Coliseum, Ilkeston.
You Never Know!—Dec. 24, Palace, Doncaster; 31, Hippodrome, Mexborough.

CONCERT PARTIES.

A La Mode.—Dec. 31, Palace, Felixtowe.
Anglo-Indian.—Dec. 24, Hippodrome, Kettering; 31, Palace, Northampton.
Catlin's Royal Pierrots.—Dec. 24, Albert Hall, Leeds; 31, Albert Hall, Leeds.
Entrees, The.—Dec. 24, Pavilion, Rusholme.
Gay Gondoliers, The.—Dec. 24, Empire, Ebbw Vale.
Hustlers, The.—Dec. 24, Queen's, Cardiff.
Ideals, The.—Dec. 24, Palace, Pembroke Dock; 31, Palace, Pembroke Dock.
Maids and Middies.—Dec. 24, Town Hall, Holt; 31, Town Hall, Sheringham.
Merry Players, The.—Dec. 24, Majestic, Inverkeithing; 31, Albert Hall, Annan.
Night Birds, The.—Dec. 24, Palace, Norton Malton; 31, Marble Arch Palace, Beverley.
Passing Events, The.—Dec. 24, Music Hall, Inverness; 31, Pavilion, Wick.
Pierrot, Pierrette, and Piano.—Dec. 24, Market Hall, Norwich; 31, Market Hall, Norwich.
Pronouns, The.—Dec. 24, Crown, Eccles; 31, W.G.T., Leamington.
Queers, The.—Dec. 24, Picture House, Stratford-on-Avon.
Radiums, The.—Dec. 24, Olympian Gardens, Cromer; 31, Town Hall, Holt.
Royal Scarlet Entertainers.—Dec. 24, The Metropolitan.
Superbs, The.—Dec. 24, Lyric, Hull.
Summits, The.—Dec. 24, Kursaal, Whitley Bay; 31, Kursaal, Whitley Bay.
Wits, The.—Dec. 24, Hippodrome, Cannock.

"THE BABES" AT BLACKPOOL.

At the Palace Variety Theatre, Blackpool, Miss Florrie Forde, the popular chorus singer, who is always a big favourite in the North, presented on the 17th her annual Christmas pantomime, written by Gilbert Payne, with incidental music by John W. Hatton. This year it is "The Babes in the Wood," and it is a bright and merry production in nine scenes, rehearsed and produced by Fred Fulton. A capital company has been got together, there is much charming music, including special numbers by permission of Messrs. B. Feldman & Co., the Star Music Co., and others; the dancing and ballet effects are full of beauty and animation, and the scenes, particularly those of Nottingham Goose Fair, Fairyland, the Heart of the Forest, and Robin Hood's Palace, are on quite the approved pantomime scale. The whole is garnished with a big beauty chorus, the orchestra and chorus being under the direction of John W. Hatton.

A packed house gave the frolicsome pantomime as hearty a send-off as could have been desired. There are abundant gibes about Army life that seem to delight the crowd, and a burlesque medical examination kept the house rocking on the first night. Miss Florrie Forde played Robin Hood with all her well-known verve and spirit, and had everyone joining in the choruses of her song, "Good-bye-e" and "Back to My Home Once More." Miss Lily Layton's Maid Marion was a dainty performance, and she scored well with her song, "What Do You Want to Make Those Eyes at Me For?" Miss Molly Maguire, the Fairy Queen, had a charming number in the popular Feldman song, "Let the Great Big World Keep Turning," and another Feldman song that made a hit w asMr. Reg. Bolton's "Bread, Bread, Bread." Mr. Bolton's Simple Simon was a clever study, and he had many comedy successes. The Babes, Babs and Jeanette, used the melodious burlesque Hawaiian ditty, "Mandy from Tonypandy," as an introduction to a smart step dance. Billy Doust, the Dame, always had the house laughing, and his song, "Plum and Apple," went well. The ballet effects were smartly engineered, the big feature in this direction being a beautiful rose ballet, in which Inez St. Vincent and Dolly were the principals.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."
—*Tempest, Act ii, Scene ii.*

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—*Henry VI., Act ii, Scene iii.*

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Next Week—Ditto.

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This Week—"Pomponette."
Next Week—Ditto.

TH. ROYAL, NOTTINGHAM.
Manager, Mr. Wentworth Croke.
This Week—"The House that Jack Built."
Next Week—Ditto.

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Next Week—Ditto.

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PROVINCIAL PANTOMIMES.

"OLD KING COLE," AT ABERDEEN.

This pantomime, presented by the Robert Arthur Theatres Co., abounds in particularly beautiful scenery and dresses, and the lady principals are unusually strong vocally. Miss Blanche Pearl and Miss Mabel Medrow score again and again with melodies such as "You're the One for Me," "The Bells of St. Mary," "Swing Me in the Moonlight," and "If I Knew that Someone Cared for Me." Mr. Fred Colley is a very good King Cole, and Mr. Ivan Berlyn, who wears fourteen different costumes, a most acceptable Queen Cole. Messrs. Cullen and Carthy are a couple of good knockabouts, and Wee Alfy adds much to the fun.

The pantomime runs in Aberdeen until Jan. 5, and runs thereafter for three weeks at H.M. Theatre, Dundee.

"BOY BLUE," AT BELFAST.

On Christmas Eve, Mr. Fred W. Warden produced his twenty-third annual pantomime at Grand Opera House, Belfast, with every possible evidence of success. The book, by Geo. Slater and T. Royal, is on traditional lines, with addition of up-to-date topics by the latter gentleman; and the music by the talented local chef de orchestra, Mr. S. P. Swanton, is both catchy and melodious.

Mr. Warden has again secured a brilliant cast. Miss Pinkie Whyte is an ideal principal boy, and won many deserved encores for her rendering of several songs, including "Good-Bye-ee," "Down Texas Way," and "Smoke Clouds," which are all bound to prove popular. Miss Irene May is delightful as Bo-Peep. She has a fine voice, which was heard with pleasure in "Just My Love" and "Scanlan Sang Mavourneen." Miss May also took part with Miss Whyte in the duet, "One Hour of Love with You." The rôle of the travelling showman, O'Crummles, is played on original lines by Mr. Fitz-Allen, an exceedingly droll comedian. His singing of "And the Sergeant Said" created much merriment. Mr. Gilbert Payne must also be congratulated on the success he achieved as Johnny Stout. His dry humour, which is never exaggerated, created uncontrollable laughter; and he takes a leading part in many funny scenes with Fitz-Allen. Mr. Payne sang in unctuous style "You Can't Get Away from the Fact." Miss Bella Moody furnished a capital piece of comedy in her conception of Angelina, Duchess of Eccentricuts, her singing of "Meatless Day" being encored. Mr. George Ali's impersonation of a canine is so well known that it is difficult to add anything new in his favour, but he quite upheld his reputation in this pantomime. Mr. Billy Rutherford appeared to advantage as Codling, assistant to O'Crummles, and sang "On the 7.23," while his dancing display is certainly very smart. Miss Lola Raine and Miss Annie Stevenson appeared as Jack Horner and Mary; and we have nothing but praise for Miss Marjorie Fitz-Allen's impersonation of Columbine, an airy fairy. Mr. Stephen Hall must be commended for his capable impersonation of Harlequin, and he is also a fine dancer; and Mr. Frank Woodville speaks his lines with due effect as Father Time. The Eight Jackson Girls contribute in no small degree to the success of the pantomime with their songs and dances; and the members of the large chorus get through an amazing amount of work without any error whatever. Mr. Warden is ably assisted on the stage by Mr. Frank Howard, and Mr. James M. McCann, acting manager, looks after the front of the house with proverbial courtesy.

"OLD KING COLE" AT BRISTOL.

On Saturday night, at the Princes Theatre, "Old King Cole" made his initial bow to a critical audience at Bristol. Mr. R. C. Oldham is responsible for the book, for painting much of the scenery, and designing many of the dresses, and possibly the multiplicity of his duties prevented him from recording many facts of national interest concerning Old King Cole beyond the circumstances that he was a merry old soul, called for his pipe, called for his bowl, and called for his fiddlers three. Mr. Oldham has fashioned for his majesty a daughter—"one fair daughter and no more"—and the fact that the affection of her heart was spirited away when she was quite young is the motif for the pantomime, for it enables the fairy to recover that heart from the demon's influence, give it the power to, and desire for, love, and then fix its affections on Prince Ardent, a distinctly ardent principal boy in Miss Beatrice Allen, who can thus early write down Bristol as one of the veritable triumphs of her career. Miss Allen has a stage presence that permits comparison with any principal boy of the Princes for the past quarter of a century, and does not suffer by comparison. She is an actress, too, and a vocalist to boot, so that she looks the part, plays it, well speaks her lines, and triumphs as a vocalist; while she also reveals the wisdom of wearing simple dresses. With her they are effective in the extreme. Her great song is "Down Texas Way." She has two other good and more dramatic numbers in "When the Old Church Bells are Ringing" and "Put Me Through to Daddy Christmas." Miss Renee Reel is an artiste of quite a different type as Princess Clarice, the principal girl, and her contributions are all and always acceptable and popular. She well sings "Appleblossom Time" and "Down Swanee River Way," but, above and beyond that, she is one of the neatest dancers ever seen in pantomime in Bristol. Misses Gertrude Clegg and Sybil Hook have not much to do as second boy and girl respectively, but they do that little well. Miss Elsa Cowie follows many accomplished fairies, but she makes good, and well sings two numbers, notably "Let the Great Big World Keep Turning," and partners well with the Demon (Mr. Edward Delfosse), in some florid operatic work early in the performance. Mr. Edward Delfosse has a splendid voice, and reveals it particularly in his "Revenge" number, but he will do better with his song from the conductor's seat when he gets the "hang" of the house. Mr. Arnold Richardson early established himself a great favourite as Micky, the spurious Old King Cole, and his song, "Never Again," is likely to prove one of the hits of the run. Mr. Richardson is possessed of a priceless laugh as a mirth maker, and his 'Ole Bill stunt makes everybody merry. Mr. George Miller is on familiar ground, for he is a Bristolian, and it is his third appearance as Dame at the Princes—not only his third, but his best. He has to thank Wilkie Bard for lending him "Come Into My Garden of Parsnips," which goes well, as does "Sugar," but Mr. Miller is quite as effective in what he does as in what he says or sings, and especially so when he negotiates a stile in a way that would have delighted the late Fred Emney. Messrs. W. T. Thompson, Frank Haynor, and George Elliston, in minor comedy parts, all do successful work; and Mr. E. Story Gofton is quite good as the Wandering King, for it is a part that has to be acted and intelligently presented. Queen and Le Brun were also praiseworthy as two of Old King Cole's fiddlers, and their reindeer act provoked the audience to great merriment, and a well-deserved ovation at its close. Mr. G. R. Chapman is to be complimented on some very pretty and clever incidental music. Madame Royce has admirably trained her ballet.

"JACK HORNER" AT DUBLIN.

Mr. Lawrence Rowland's Christmas pantomime, "Little Jack Horner," written and produced by Arthur Lucan, opened to crowded houses at the Queen's Theatre, Dublin. Miss Marian Scott (principal boy) made a charming hero. She sang some catchy numbers, her most successful being "Down Texas Way" and "Won't You Come to the Dargle?" Miss Clarice Chesney (principal girl) won immediate favour, her song of her home in "Samoa" receiving several encores. Miss Moira Breffni (second boy) made an immediate hit with an original number, "Are All the Girls in Ireland as Nice as You?" The comedians, Messrs. J. B. Strain, Arthur Lucan, Frank Joy, and Doyle and Massey, are excellent. Special features are introduced by the Sisters Colley and the Lennox Dancing Trio. Mr. Cathal McGarvey in an original humorous part won immediate success. The music throughout is the work of the Queen's popular musical director, Mr. Saml. Levenston, and the entire production is beautifully mounted throughout.

"JACK AND THE BEANSTALK," AT EDINBURGH.

The pantomime, "Jack and the Beanstalk," produced at the King's Theatre on Wednesday, makes an assured bid for popularity. The spectacle is beautifully mounted, and the scenic effects are admirable examples of the art of the painter. The book is by Mr. James A. Hewson, and follows with sufficient fidelity the old nursery tale. But, above all, the management has succeeded in engaging a cast of sterling excellence. Miss Lily Morris bears much of the burden of the pantomime on her comely shoulders. She is always bright, humorous and graceful. She sings with fine expression and spontaneity in every song, and her rendering of "The Laddies Who Fought and Won," accompanied by a chorus of discharged soldiers, evoked a torrent of applause. Miss Nellie Wallace as Dame Trot convulsed the house by her eccentric business. Mr. Fred Duprez as Miffins is singularly successful in his quaint style of humour. He never fails to arouse the laughter of the audience, and his quaint rendering of such songs as "Over and Over Again" is extremely clever. The scene in which Mr. Duprez alone holds the stage, in a chaffing conversation with the musical conductor, was a striking instance of the actor's ability to hold the attention, and excite the laughter of the audience. Miss Betty Howes is charming in her girlish impersonation of the Princess Edwidge, and she sings sweetly and with taste. Miss Eleanor Wilson, the Fairy Erethia, possesses freshness and grace, and her interpretation of Wood's "Roses in Picardy" made a very favourable impression. Mr. Fred Borthwick (King Stoneybrokish) is a capable vocalist; and other performances of merit include Miss May Noble (Prince Hal), Miss Connie Crewe (Bertie), and Miss Muriel Symes (Dulcie). Miss Yvonne Mehro, assisted by the Six Martellos, makes an especial feature of one or two interesting ballets, admirably grouped. The Bob Pender Troupe give their giant's dance and other gymnastic entries with their accustomed success. The King's Male Voice Octette are of real service in their choral work, and Mr. A. Douglas Willcox conducts with his usual skill and energy. The music has been arranged by him and Mr. Guy Jones. The pantomime has been produced by Mr. Walter Aubrey, who must have realised from the plaudits of the audience at the fall of the curtain that his work had been completely satisfactory.

"PUSS IN BOOTS," AT LIVERPOOL.

A crowded audience on Saturday evening expressed appreciation of the Drury Lane pantomime, "Puss in Boots," which opened its season at the Liverpool Olympia. The annual had nothing lacking in the matter of beauty and picturesqueness, while the ensemble was particularly strong with a bevy of daintily attired girls. The scenery, which was by Joseph Harker, Bruce Smith, and R. McClery, added considerably to the completeness of the pantomime, the "Fairy Garden," interval picture, and the "Palace," which concluded, being exceptionally fine.

Opening with a fine stage setting of a village and mill, wherein Gertie Gitana introduced a delightful melody, "Everybody's Fond of Me," the comedians started the ball rolling with a funny motor incident. Later Miss Gertie Gitana rendered a warmly appreciated song, "Smoking Makes Me Dream," after which she treated her admirers to "Arizona," which went well. In the boudoir of the Baroness the Baron and the miller's son caused great laughter with their carpet-laying turn, and here the Fairy changed the Baroness into the likeness of Doris Keane's rôle in "Romance." The gorgeous finale proved very impressive.

Miss Gertie Gitana worked hard and successfully, and sang and danced to everyone's delight. Miss Vanwy Chard proved a dainty principal girl, and, possessed of a sweet voice, supplied several numbers, including "Butterfly," accompanied by a number of children dressed as butterflies. Tom Morton as the Baron and A. G. Spry and Fred Terriss (miller's sons) provided a deal of fun, and were ably helped by Miss Lily Long, very amusing as the Baroness. Reginald Crompton was an impressive magician, and Miss Nora Moon, with several well-rendered songs, impersonated the Fairy Queen. A special word of thanks is due to Little Violet Deane, who made an admirable Cat. Other helpers included Ruby Kimberley (Susie Sunshine), C. Warren (Commercial Traveller), and Edward Morgan (Notary). The pantomime ran with commendable smoothness, thanks to the work of Mr. C. Denier Warren (stage director) and Mr. Fred Terriss (stage manager).

"BABES IN THE WOOD" AT MANCHESTER.

The Wylie-Tate productions have attained such a high reputation in Manchester that a new pantomime from the same enterprising hands was looked for at the Palace, Manchester, on Saturday last, with considerable expectation. An overflowing house testified to this, and the vast audience was not disappointed. The book, by Lauri Wylie and Clifford Harris (of whom the latter shares with Valentine the credit of the incidental lyrics), follows the usual simple line of incident; the music has been composed, selected, and arranged by Jas. W. Tate; while Gus Sohlke has placed the hall-mark of excellence upon the staging as a whole. Upon this basis a selection of the best of talent has been made for the interpretation of the story, supplemented by a chorus, ballet, and children, to the number of over one hundred performers. John Bull takes credit for the painting of the beautiful scenery, with the one exception of the Sherwood Forest scene, by Philip Howden, which is the prettiest pastoral setting imaginable. Among the novel scenic effects are the Meccano Toy setting, the picturesque bustle of "Nottingham Fair," and the Circus Fire, from which the Babes are rescued by Robin Hood. This scene is extraordinary enough to justify a special intimation to an otherwise apprehensive audience that the imitation of fire is produced by electrical reflections, and that there is no danger. Mr. Cyril Gilbert, inventor of "The Burning Forest," has assisted in its construction. Popular Miss Dorothy Ward is the principal boy, and her Robin Hood is a sweet and virile embodiment. Her ability to render good songs in excellent style is especially exemplified in "Down Texas Way" (with dance), "Aeroplane Built for Two," the "Picardy" love song, "Joey," featured by twenty-four juveniles, and "Just a Little Bit" duet with Maid Marian, the latter played by Miss Hilda Glyder. In addition to her clever rendering of "Oh, Johnnie," and "Where the Black-eyed Susans Grow," she contributes a couple of brilliantly clever dances. Mr. Shaun Glenville brings all his comic gifts to bear upon his impersonation of Baron Baddenough; and there is an excellent prospect of favouritism for Wee Georgie Wood, who is vastly amusing as Reggie, one of the Babes. The other Babe, Gracie, is nicely played by Petite Olivette. The indispensable Ruffians, Marmaduke and Sammy, have adequate exponents in Messrs. Ernie Mayne and Arthur Reece, both good in their separate ways, the former making a hit with a funny song, "I Do Like a Cup of Cocoa." Other song hits are Wee Georgie Wood's "Youngest of the Family" and "Some Jobs"—duet with Shaun Glenville; the latter's vocal successes being "We're All Right Again," and a duet, "Eyes at Me," with Miss Dorothy Ward.

Among the specialities are Decars and Tomato, with performing geese, pony, donkey, and dog; the Reed Troupe of Pantomimists in a mechanical scene, "The Baron's Bedroom"; and Poppett Ginnett and her educated mare, "Bess." Of the many spectacular pictures, the Ballet of Leaves in Sherwood Forest stands out as a triumph of beauty.

"GOODY TWO SHOES," AT MANCHESTER.

At the Theatre Royal this year we have an example of a sumptuous production of three years ago making its reappearance, after an interim of successes in other large towns, to find its return visit a really welcome one.

A special attraction of the cast is Miss Florence Smithson, who appears as Goody. A more charming and graceful presence it would be hard to conceive. Her singing is delightful. One of her songs, specially featured by a juvenile crinoline wedding chorus, is "When the Old Church Bells are Ringing," the last chorus of which is sung by this miniature little bride. The child-voice was appreciated, and would have been appreciated still more had the big audience known that the little singer was Miss Smithson's daughter Joy. Miss Smithson's rendering of "Roses in Picardy" in another scene is a piece of fine art, which brought tremendous applause; while her voice was heard to advantage in many concerted numbers.

All the requisite verve and confidence are present in Miss Daisy Wood's spirited and humorous performance as Alan, the principal boy. Comedy is her forte, and everything she does is keyed up to the pitch of her best work in acting, song, and dance. Her initial vocal effort, "Oh, Johnnie!" went remarkably well, and was succeeded by "For Me and My Girl," along with Miss Smithson—a dainty number; but her big hits were a sarcastically comic song, "Oh, It's a Lovely War," especially calculated to make soldiers laugh, and the duet, "Good Bye-ee," along with Mr. Horace Mills.

In Mr. Horace Mills as Widow Tutt we have one of the prime elements of the success of the show. A thousand and one humorous touches make up one of the most entertaining dames we have had during many years; and with the co-operation of Mr. Lupino Lane there is no lack of genuine amusement. Two big comedy scenes, "Laying a Carpet" and "In the Clouds," held the house in raptures of enjoyment; to which must be added Mr. Lupino Lane's agility in the direction of eccentric acrobatics and dancing, as well as his comedy numbers, notably "The Girl at the Chemist's Shop."

Of other singers commendable reference must be made to Miss Lily Eyton's rendering of "Little Home Down Swanee River Way," Miss Murella Langley's fairy number, and the cultured contributions of Mr. John Morley as the demon Discontent. The cast also derives strength from the clever impersonations by Mr. Laurence Caird as the Duke, Mr. Cecil Morton York as Zoraster, and Mr. Roper Lane as the Mayor of Blossomville.

No expense has been spared in the mounting. Picturesque ballets and scenes abound, brilliant ensembles stand out, and the splendid Toyland setting, with its ingenious and totally beautiful reproduction of every conceivable kind of toy in human personation, will prove a dream of delight to the juveniles. The augmented orchestra is under the direction of Mr. C. W. Chambers, and the pantomime has been produced under the stage direction of Mr. A. E. Dodson and the personal supervision of Mr. John Hart.

"THE BABES," AT STOURBRIDGE.

Miss Ada Wise as Robin Hood has a very fine presence, and her singing of "Just Keep Marching Along" in the first scene and "When God Gave You to Me" later stamp her as a vocalist of the first order.

Miss Anna Kemp plays Maid Marian with just that touch of daintiness and grace which is essential to the part, and her singing of that popular number, "Down Texas Way," is one of the "hits" of the pantomime.

Robin Hood and Maid Marian also score heavily in their duet, entitled "My Own Iona."

Two better and daintier exponents of the Babes could hardly be found than Doris and Babs.

Fairy Fortuna is splendidly played by Miss Nellie Southworth, and her beautiful singing is an outstanding feature.

Miss Grace Lawn and Miss Ivy Grant represent Will Scarlet and Bluebell, and score heavily in both their numbers. The well-known Staffordshire comedian, Mr. Ernie Garner, plays the part of the bold, bad Baron with vim and verve. He is ably supported by the author, Mr. Mike Madden, who plays the part of Nurse Prettypet, and between them the comedy is fast and furious.

The Robbers are ably played by Elgy and Barman, and M. Meader plays the part of a Boy Scout, Pickles, with ability. The company is ably supported by a good chorus of pretty girls and charming dancers (Miss Kitty Denton's Go-Bang Girls).

The scenery, dresses, and effects are excellent, the principal scene representing the Break of Day in Sherwood Forest.

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A few opinions from popular people.

Mr. MARTIN HARVEY, Grand Theatre, Hull.—"I have been intending for some time to send you a testimonial about your Grease Paints. I have given them a good trial now, and I think I can honestly say that they are superior even to the German, and that, alas! is saying a good deal. I compliment you heartily upon your achievement." **Mr. WILL EVANS,** Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.—"I thank you for sample of your Grease Paints you sent, and I find it a very excellent preparation. I shall certainly continue to use it." **Mr. PHIL RAY.**—"Not being fortunate enough to receive a sample of your excellent Grease Paints, I purchased same for myself, and after a lengthy trial I have no hesitation in saying that, from my point of view, it is immeasurably superior to any foreign makes."

No. 32 THE GREASE PAINT HOVENDEN & SONS LTD LONDON

THE ERA

ESTABLISHED 1837.

Edited by ALFRED BARNARD.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1917.

CANTEEN BOARD SALARIES.

A GREAT deal of objection to the Canteen Board has been raised from time to time on the part of managements of private enterprises who foresaw unfair competition resulting from the institutions set up all over the country by the Government for the amusement of troops. For the moment there is no active opposition from private theatre owners, although undoubtedly they are suffering in many towns from this State invasion, aggravated by the fact that no entertainment tax is paid by audiences visiting canteen controlled halls.

There is, however, growing up slowly but surely a great deal of discontent among the actors and performers working the canteen tours, and it is to be feared that there is very reasonable ground for complaint on their part. We have no information as to who settles the figure at which attractions shall be booked by the Board, but whoever he may be he will never be arraigned in the future side by side with those who will be alleged to have spent too much money in the prosecution of the war or the maintenance of public moral. If he has taken to his task the spirit of commerce, he has left behind, for the use of private enterprise only, the tender quality of mercy.

A correspondent, a discharged soldier-artist, playing three halls in one of the biggest military centres in the country, tells us that women are paid from thirty to fifty shillings for a single turn, playing three halls. The artistes are driven round in open motor-cars, which in the present weather has caused them all to catch colds. In a pantomime which is being now produced, the girls—in this case local talent—are being paid only one pound per week, and have to provide their own shoes.

Unskilled labour, both male and female, employed in munition and other war work is being paid anything up to five pounds a week, whilst the tendency throughout the country is, where organised labour is concerned, to put up the wages to meet the vastly increased cost of living. The actor and the performer are as much affected by these considerations as any other worker, and they have to meet, in addition to other increased expenditure, a fifty per cent. advance on their travelling expenses, which is a very serious item indeed. Yet, if our correspondent is to be believed, the Canteen Board are paying a rate of salary so low that it would, even in peace time, when the cost of living was normal, have been regarded as a grave scandal.

The amusement world has done its bit right loyally since the war began. From the highest to the lowest performers have unstintingly given of their art for the maintenance of the country's moral, for the cheering of the wounded, and for the raising of funds for war charities, the latter approaching something like two millions sterling. The amusement business, at least as regards the smaller caterers, has been seriously affected by over-taxation. It is, therefore, extremely unfair to inflict such injury upon it as will be caused by introducing into its ranks the wornout and—we had thought—already exploded principle of sweated labour. Apart from the unfairness, however, it is bad business from the point of view of the State, which has been taught by the war the art of spending money. We recommend actors and music hall artistes who are being treated in the manner indicated by our correspondent to place their grievances before the Actors' Association or the Variety Artistes' Federation.

AS YOU LIKE IT.

"Sleeping Partners" suggests a Nappy Yuletide.

* * *

Christmas parties are cancelled this year, but panto. stars will have plenty of receptions.

* * *

"Did you admire my presence?" asked the Principal Boy. "Well, dear," replied her friend, "I'm afraid the postman hasn't brought them yet."

* * *

New Year Resolution for Critics: Never to write that people did things "as to the manner born."

* * *

New Year Resolution for Song-at-Piano Artistes: Never to sing the old, old songs "By request."

* * *

"Do you like Hale?" asked the panto. enthusiast. And his friend answered, "Lead me to it."

* * *

Now that Arthur Collins has given us a Chinese show, next year we may expect a Japantomime.

* * *

How good George Shelton is again as Smee. I shouldn't be half as good as him.

* * *

By the way, I'm told the rage for calling children "Peter" has died a sudden death. There seems to be a Peter Panic.

* * *

"'Faëry Queen' Wanted, First Edition," advertised a book lover. And next day a beauty of fifty-two turned up at his house, and began reciting panto. couplets!

* * *

The Miracle at the Ambassadors: Hawthorne in December.

* * *

A lady wanted to see "Bluebell in Fairyland," and couldn't remember the name. "Let me see," she reflected, "you know—the Ellaline Terriss play—what was it called?—oh, yes—'Nugget in Paradise'!"

* * *

Now that they've turned Pinero into a musical comedy at the Adelphi, look out for "Charley's Aunt" in blank verse.

* * *

Seen on the Faces of Food Hoarders: The Twelve Pound Look.

* * *

The food situation has one blessing for actors—it's impossible to forget queues nowadays.

* * *

A critic says that "Ghosts" is a hollow piece of work. Naturally, it's easy to see through "Ghosts."

TOUCHSTONE.

SOME STUDIES IN SHAKESPEARE.

Inspired and Revised by the late J. CHURTON COLLINS, M.A.

No. 4.—THE MERCHANT OF VENICE.

THERE are two spheres in "The Merchant of Venice"—the first dealing with Antonio and Shylock, and the second with Bassanio and Portia. These two spheres are beautifully merged by the misfortunes which overtake Antonio.

Bassanio, a straightforward man, who has spent his fortune, sees a chance of retrieving his position by marrying the rich Portia. He does not possess, however, the means to take him in presentable style to Belmont, where the lady resides, and therefore requests his affectionate friend Antonio (who is apparently a wealthy merchant),

To shoot another arrow that self-same way;

or, in other words, to lend him some more money. Antonio expresses his love for Bassanio, and says:

All my fortunes are at sea;
Neither have I money, nor commodity
To raise a present sum; therefore go forth,
Try what my credit can in Venice do.

In Scene 2 we are at Belmont with Portia, the "lady richly left, and fair, of wondrous virtues," and Nerissa, her maid. In this scene we hear Portia's criticisms of her various suitors, and we note, in passing, a similarity between it and Scene 2, Act 2, of "The Two Gentlemen of Verona," where Julia and Lucetta discourse in a similar manner, but with the difference that in this latter conversation, which is in rhyme, it is the maid, and not the mistress, who criticises. In the conclusion of this scene we learn that Portia remembers a Venetian, a scholar, and a soldier, named Bassanio. Says Portia:

I remember him well; and I remember him
worthy of thy praise.

In Scene 3, Act 1, Shylock is introduced to us whilst he is agreeing to advance Bassanio 3,000 ducats on Antonio's security. Antonio enters during the transaction, and Shylock shows us in what regard he holds him:

How like a fawning publican he looks.
I hate him for he is a Christian;
But more, for that in low simplicity
He lends out money gratis, and brings
down
The rate of usance here with us in Venice.
If I can catch him once upon the hip,
. . Cursed be my tribe
If I forgive him.

Antonio's opinion of the Jew, however, is scarcely higher than the Jew's of Antonio, who says:

The devil can cite Scripture for his purpose.
An evil soul producing holy witness,
Is like a villain with a smiling cheek,
A goodly rotten apple at the heart:
O, what a goodly outside falsehood hath.

Notwithstanding the poor opinion these two men have of each other, the loan is arranged upon a condition imposed by Shylock because he wishes to catch Antonio "upon the hip," and agreed to by Antonio because he desires to serve his friend Bassanio. The condition to be inserted in the bond by Antonio is that if he does not repay the loan upon the agreed date he is to forfeit to the usurer

. . . . An equal pound
Of your fair flesh, to be cut off and taken
In what part of your body it pleaseth me.

In Scene 4 of Act 11 we learn of the proposed elopement of Lorenzo and Jessica, daughter to the Jew, which takes place in Scene 6.

The sphere of the play dealing with the caskets begins in Scene 7 of Act 11, where we find the Prince of Morocco making his choice from:

The first, of gold, who this inscription
hears,
Who chooseth me shall gain what many
men desire;
The second, silver, which this promise
carries,
Who chooseth me shall get as much as he
deserves.
This third, dull lead, with warning all as
blunt,
Who chooseth me must give and hazard
all he hath.

The Prince of Morocco chooses the first, and for his pains learns "All that glisters is not gold."

In Scene 8, Act 2, the Jew learns of his daughter's disappearance, but feels much more keenly the loss of two sealed bags of ducats, two rich and precious stones which she has taken with her. In this scene, too, we learn that Antonio is threatened with the loss of his wealth.

Act 2, Scene 9, gives us the Prince of Arragon's choice of the silver casket at Belmont.

In Act 3, Scene 1, we are told of the loss of one of Antonio's ships, and that Shylock will require the forfeit mentioned in the bond. He also shows the trait of vengeance in his character and speaks bitterly of the ill-treatment he has suffered at the hands of the Christians; but he says:

The villainy you teach me I will execute,
and it shall go hard but I will better
the instructions.

In this scene one of the touches sometimes quoted as showing that Shylock was not altogether heartless. Thus he speaks of the torquois ring:

I had it of Leah when I was a bachelor;
I would not have given it for a wilderness
of monkeys.

Yet these words have scarcely mingled with the air before he is feasting his mind upon the vengeance he intends to take upon the merchant of Venice.

Scene 2 of this act brings us to Bassanio's winning choice of the lead casket, and the betrothal of Gratiano and Nerissa. In the midst of his rejoicing Bassanio receives a letter from Antonio conveying the news of his misfortunes. Portia offers to pay the money owing, double or treble, and Bassanio leaves her to attend the Court at Venice.

In Scene 4, Portia unfolds her scheme of playing the Doctor of Laws for the purpose of extricating Antonio from his plight.

In Act 4, Scene 1, we get the Court scene where Shylock refuses the money tendered by Bassanio and relies upon the law to give him his pound of flesh. The law, however, is against him, since he must shed no blood.

Then follows the incident of the ring, all that connects the 5th act with the play.

Such is the outline of the story of the Merchant of Venice.

The characterisation is perfect. Antonio is described by Bassanio in the second scene of the third act:

The dearest friend to me, the kindest man,
The best conditioned and unwearied spirit
In doing courtesies, and one in whom
The ancient Roman honour more appears
Than any that draws breath in Italy.

Bassanio is a straightforward honourable man. Characteristic of him is the indication contained in the words:

When I did first impart my love to you,
I freely told you all the wealth I had
Ran in my veins . . . .

The contrast with the sad Antonio is the cheery, wild, impetuous Gratiano. Lorenzo is a romantic, superficial youth, and it is natural that the poetic expressions in the 5th act come from him:

How sweet the moonlight sleeps upon this
bank.
Here will we sit, and let the sounds of
music
Creep in our ears: soft stillness and the
night
Becomes the touches of sweet harmony.

The most discussed character in the "Merchant of Venice" is Shylock's. One interpretation frequently accepted is that he has the potentialities of a noble nature, but is spoiled by the persecution of the Christians, and that by putting his character before the public the poet intended a defence of the Jews. This view is said to be supported by several passages in the play, among which are the one referring to the ring given him by his wife, already mentioned, and the other is in Act 4, Scene 1, where Bassanio has declared himself willing to sacrifice his wife to release Antonio from Shylock's clutches, the Jew remarking contemptuously: "These be Christian husbands." This latter, it is averred, proves the Jew to be affectionate to his wife, and to consider the duties of a husband to his wife to be paramount. It must, however, be pointed out that this touch in Shylock's character would only make his character more perfect, for the Jews are well known to be the most domesticated race among men.

The other interpretation of the character is that he is what he superficially appears to be, an avaricious, revengeful, abominable and repulsive Jew. Now in accepting this interpretation we must ask: Was there any reason which would cause Shakespeare to draw such a terrible character? Yes, there probably was in the Lopez affair, which occurred in the year 1594, when Lopez was hanged at Tyburn for attempting to assassinate those who had befriended him. Dr. Lopez was physician to the Queen, and his execution naturally made a great stir in the public mind so that the Jews were very much in evidence. If "The Merchant of Venice" is "the Venesyon Comedy" referred to in 1594 by Henslowe, then this reference is the more marked.

Shylock has been cruelly treated by the Christians. Even by the kind Antonio he was spurned and treated like a dog. Avaricious Shylock certainly is, for we have him referring to the fact that Antonio lent out money gratis, and brought down the rate of usance in Venice. Yet the more generous of the two passions, revenge, triumphs over the other when he refuses treble the three thousand ducats offered by Bassanio and cries for the fulfilment of the bond. There is a certain pathos in the character in that Shylock stands alone at enmity with the world. He is just, but his justice is unchristian-like, not being tempered with mercy. Even his own daughter Jessica, a flighty worthless girl, deceives him and robs him. In this there is the fault in the ethics of the play. Jessica commits crime, and is not punished. Indeed, she is rewarded. This is the only example of crime unpunished in Shakespeare.

Portia, with whom Jessica is contrasted, is the most philosophical and intellectual of Shakespeare's women.

There are two morals in the play. That justice must be tempered with mercy is taught by the sphere surrounding Antonio and Shylock. That, like Bassanio, one must have the courage to hazard all for the attainment of a great object, is taught by the allegorical part of the play surrounding the caskets.

As we read we can watch the relentless Shylock move, and feel sad at the misfortunes of the kindly Antonio: we respect the realised ideal in Portia, and experience a desire to bring retribution on Jessica's head.

(No. 5 of this series will appear next week.)

MR. H. B. IRVING ON RELIGION AND THE DRAMA.

ON Thursday, Dec. 20, Mr. H. B. Irving, who is one of the vice-presidents of the Actors' Church Union, addressed a large congregation of the City Temple Church, Holborn Viaduct, on "Religion and the Drama." The service, which included hymns, prayers, and Scripture reading, was conducted by Dr. J. Fort Newton, a distinguished American citizen, who recently became minister of the famous church.

"Damaged Goods" and the Church.

Mr. Irving, who was frequently applauded, said he was reading a little while ago a volume of reminiscences by an actor whose father was a distinguished Nonconformist minister and who got into serious trouble with his congregation for preaching one day a sermon in honour of an actor who had recently died. The invitation to him (Mr. Irving) from the City Temple, an invitation with which he felt deeply honoured and with which it was a great privilege to comply, showed that religious bodies now had a more liberal spirit towards the theatre than formerly. But prejudice still existed. For instance, a national society which had been formed for combating a very serious and dreadful disease was asked to give its countenance and support to the production of a play by Brieux, dealing in a dignified, dramatic and thoroughly worthy way with that terrible question. That part of the profits which would otherwise go to those who had undertaken the production was offered to the society, but the committee, composed of doctors, clergymen, and statesmen, declined to have anything to do with the production, losing by their decision £12,000, which went into other channels, to be used for the same purpose.

The Mother of the Theatre.

Dr. Fort Newton's statement that the Church was in a sense the mother of the theatre was perfectly true, and she had never quite forgiven the drama for leaving her. As soon as the theatre went its own way the Church began to regard it with a very unfriendly eye. The Roman Catholic Church, taking a more liberal view, made no objection to Sunday performances, but took it out of the actors by refusing them Christian burial! The Puritan—the barbarous force from which this country suffered—would have had no amusement, no theatre, no drama. But he was knocking his head against a brick wall. People must be amused, and the drama in some form would always exist. Between the actor and the preacher there was a certain likeness. They both liked to see full benches, and he feared that one reason why preachers, like John Wesley, were sometimes hard upon the theatre was that the latter attracted larger audiences. The preacher, too, like the actor, must to some extent be an artiste.

Much of the prejudice against the theatre arose from jealousy. He thought it was Sir Henry Irving who first described the theatre as a Cinderella of the Arts. Though ill-treated and despised, Cinderella was a very charming young person, and exercised extraordinary fascination, which seemed to irritate some people, who regarded going to see plays as a foolish proceeding. Instead of belittling the theatre, we should make the best of it, and recognise it as a necessity of life. The amount of humbug, pose and pretence in the world made one sometimes inclined to think that the only really honest person was the actor, because he said, plainly, "I am not what I pretend to be."

The Theatre a Necessity.

What was the use, the function, of the theatre? Why should we respect, admire, and seek to preserve it? One of the things the war had shown was the absolute necessity of the theatre, especially to soldiers, who were mainly responsible for the present prosperity of the theatre, a prosperity of which there was no need to be ashamed. Change and relaxation were essential to boys coming home from the grim horrors of war. He estimated that the theatre had raised between one and two million sterling for war charities. And the theatre had received official recognition by the institution of camp theatres all over the country.

Another service the theatre had done was that of preserving the work of Shakespeare, without assistance from the State, such as was given in other countries. It was the actor-manager who, with all his faults—and he had as many as a Cabinet Minister—had kept bright the light of Shakespeare's lamp. Alluding, in passing, to the Bacon-Shakespeare controversy, Mr. Irving expressed the opinion that, as the population of London was in Shakespeare's time only about 50,000, and as the bard had bitter enemies, it would have been impossible for such a secret to be kept during his life.

Sunday Opening.

With regard to Sunday entertainments, the present position was very illogical. Cinemas were allowed to be open on Sunday to present roaring farce or lurid melodrama, but a play by Shakespeare must not be produced. At a time when some anxiety was felt about Shakespeare's future on the stage, he suggested that religious ceremonies might be observed on Sunday morning and the later part of the day dedicated to the performance of Shakespeare's plays alone.

A great deal of foolish stuff was written in newspapers about actors and actresses, and this caused resentment in certain minds. But this adulation was not due to the insatiable vanity of actors and actresses, but to the demand of the public. Newspapers did not always like it, and sometimes they took it out of the profession by writing hard things about the theatre.

The Future of the Theatre.

As to the future of the theatre, the outlook was not altogether encouraging. The theatre, to be worthy of itself, must be the home of Shakespeare, of tragedy, as well as of all sorts of delightful entertainment. To-day, the more serious side of the theatre was in danger of being neglected. Before the war a mild rush had set in for the light entertainment, and naturally during the war the tide was flowing stronger than ever. At the present time it was a great risk to put anything serious on the stage. Of course, men who had been in the trenches wanted to see bright things; they did not want anything "high-browed." But the danger was that the theatre would come to be regarded as existing solely for amusement, with no high purpose at all. We all hoped we were going to be more spiritual after the war; we were fighting against a materialist cause, and we all hoped that after the war we should be more spiritual in the theatre and the world of art generally. It was there that religion could help the theatre. A church like the City Temple, by taking the theatre by the hand and seeking to make the most and best of it, by showing that the drama was a great art which should be greatly treated, could do a great deal of good. In conclusion, Mr. Irving, quoting the Scripture lesson, suggested that the attitude of Church to Stage should be one of faith, hope and charity.

WAR ENTERTAINMENTS IN MANCHESTER.

THERE seems to be no end to the schemes for the benefit of soldiers, wounded or otherwise, set afoot by the Manchester houses of entertainment. In the early days of the war, the movement to help was pretty general, and Manchester proprietors and managers were quick to take a hand in the furtherance of the good work by opening their houses, very often on Sundays, so that local efforts should take a definite, concentrated and attractive shape.

Where the effort has been, as everybody recognises, so general and so generous, it is hard to make distinctions between one house and another. The Theatre Royal, under the direction of Mr. John Hart, who also controls the sister house, the Prince's, very early gave its spacious room to the cause of the wounded and the fighting men at the Front. Rather sad gatherings they were at that time, for we had not steeled ourselves to the sights which have become, alas, so common! The same gatherings of Tommies, with their sprinkling of devoted nurses, have been repeated *ad lib.* elsewhere, and thousands of soldiers, either in hospital or at the Front again, can testify to the many visits of local entertainers, instigated by local managers, to the hospitals of Manchester for the purpose of cheering up the badly wounded men who could not get out to the theatres. Over the way from the Theatre Royal, the patrons of Miss Horniman's Gaiety Theatre were invited to subscribe the cost of a motor ambulance. There is a photograph of this ambulance in the vestibule of the theatre, showing also the prime mover, Mr. W. Roberts-Marshall, Miss Horniman's manager, well pleased by their success; and the vehicle is regularly seen doing its share of the work. Mr. Shirra of the Royal, Mr. George Lee of the Prince's, the various managers of Messrs. Broadhead's outlying theatres—even Mr. Harry Leslie of the Pavilion *alfresco* theatre at Rusholme—could say, if they would, how many hours upon hours they have freely devoted to the recognition of the wounded. As for the big halls, take the Palace Theatre, for example. This popular house has been the means of raising upwards of £3,500 for various funds on behalf of our fighting men. A goodly sum indeed! At the Ardwick Empire innumerable big shows have been given for the same good objects. Yet more conspicuously successful have been the efforts of the Manchester Hippodrome, under the management of Mr. G. F. Reynolds, who can name, with pardonable pride, the sum of £7,500 as the total to date of this house's achievement!

And, as stated, the good work still goes on. Again at the Manchester Hippodrome, on Sunday night, December 23, a big concert was given in aid of a Y.M.C.A. cinema at Dunkirk; and, looking ahead, the same house will be used for a big effort by the Licensed Victuallers' Association, on February 21, 1918, in aid of the Lancashire Prisoners of War in Germany. At the first committee meeting for the last-named object, the sum of £350 in tickets was at once subscribed by those present, and we are credibly informed that the price for a box will be one hundred guineas, with an easy sale at the price.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

The Alhambra's Next Revue.

Although the Alhambra's next revue will deal with the American adventures of the well-known "Bing Boys," I hear (at the moment of going to press) that there will be no "Bing" in the title. George Robey and "Vi" Loraine are to have a fine set of characters apiece. The other Bing Boy's representative was not yet settled when I left just now.

Here's a Record.

Gus Solhke, who is to "produce" the Alhambra's new revue for Oswald Stoll and Grossmith and Laurillard, told me while I was at the Alhambra that, allowing for pieces now touring, this will be his sixty-seventh production since he came to England from the States.

Albert de Courville tells me that when Robey has finished his forthcoming engagement at the Alhambra he will return to the Hippodrome.

Harry and Tom and Alice.

The chief comedians in de Courville's next Hippodrome revue will be Harry Tate and Tom McNaughton. Mrs. T. M. (meaning the lively Alice Lloyd) has not yet fixed a London engagement. She may do so, however, before embarking on her next American tour.

English Revues à la Francaise.

Fred Karno was to have sent his perennial "screamer," entitled "Mumming Birds," to Paris early next month, but this transmigration has just been postponed sine die. I learn from Albert de Courville that he *will* send "Zig-Zag" to Paris early in the New Year, and that Elsie Janis may play in it there.

A Welcome Return.

That delightful dancer, Mme. Lydia Kyasht, will be paying a happy return to the London Coliseum next week. Mme. Clerc, who has been responsible for the supervision of the ballets in several pantomimes this Christmas, will again be a member of Mme. Kyasht's clever company.

Miss Vesta Tilley's Generosity.

Miss Vesta Tilley has given £400 to the War Seal Foundation (Mr. Stoll's project for establishing at Fulham a block of self-contained flats for incapacitated service men), for the purpose of founding a "Vesta Tilley" flat.

Jay Laurier in "Here and There."

Jay Laurier joined the cast of "Here and There" at the Empire recently, and immediately made a decided success, his characteristic work being greatly to the liking of the big audience. Jay took part in a new sketch introduced into the revue by Mr. Albert de Courville, and as a visitor who by mistake wanders into an hotel converted into a military hospital he gets many hearty laughs.

Off to France.

At Walham Green I had a chat with the popular manager of Ashton's Variety Agency, W. H. Price, who told me that he expected to leave for France early next month. Mr. Price, or we should say Gunner Price, No. 233809, who is attached to the 19th Reserve Battery, R.F.A., would be glad to hear from any friends. He has four brothers serving, the youngest of whom was gassed at Cambrai, and is now in hospital.

Ella Retford Reappears.

At the Alhambra, Glasgow, this popular comedienne is playing Richard Whittington, called by his familiars, Dick. A bad cold contracted during rehearsals laid Ella aside for nearly a week, but on Saturday she reappeared and was received with acclamation. Let us hope the strenuous labours of a season in Glasgow will not again place her on the sick-list.

Liverpool Hippodrome.

Mr. Oldbury Brough, formerly of the King's Theatre, Edinburgh, has been appointed manager of the Liverpool Hippodrome, in succession to Mr. C. B. Fountaine.

Death of Mr. Fred Wilmot.

The news of the death of Mr. Fred Wilmot, of Liverpool, will come as a surprise to many members of the profession, for it was only recently that he celebrated his fiftieth birthday by giving a dinner to several of his friends, and he then looked the picture of health. Last week, however, he had to undergo an operation, as a result of which he succumbed on Saturday night.

Mr. Wilmot, whose real name was James Miller, had been connected with the stage for over 30 years. He first came into prominence at Liverpool as an Irish comedian, on the halls, and in conjunction with another, named Farrell, soon reached a front position, for Farrell and Wilmot topped bills for many years until a dissolution of partnership came about. Nearly 30 years ago he took over from Mr. Ellis Brammall the Haymarket Music Hall, in Bean-street, Liverpool, which turned out a most successful speculation, and from that period he never looked back.

For a long time Mr. Wilmot ran a good variety agency in the Mersey city, and gradually extended his operations, becoming managing director of the Hippodrome, Belfast, the Hippodrome, Nottingham, and the Hippodrome, Sheffield. He was concerned with Mr. Harry C. Arnold in the fortunes of the Liverpool Lyric, was managing director of the Tivoli, New Brighton, and interested himself in twelve or fourteen picture palaces. Mr. Wilmot was of a generous nature, and ever ready to take his part in the furtherance of charitable movements.

Death of a Famed Circus Proprietor.

I regret to hear from Mr. Leonard Parish that his father, Mr. William Parish, the well-known circus proprietor, died in Madrid on December 12, aged 74.

Old Performers Not Forgotten.

Mr. Eugene Stratton sent from Christchurch a large pike, weighing 17lbs., as a Christmas gift for the old performers at the Institution, for which they desire to sincerely thank him. Miss Helen Brinckman is also thanked for a very useful present of clothing; also Mr. Tom Morton, of Morton and Bowman, who has kindly forwarded clothing.

Joining the Colours.

A complimentary banquet was accorded on Friday to Mr. Arthur E. Holland, manager of the Borough Theatre, Wallsend, who is called to the Colours. The large and appreciative audiences assembled were sufficient testimony to the high esteem in which Mr. Holland is held. Mr. Holland acknowledged the compliment in a neat little speech of thanks.

Music Hall Ladies' Guild Matinée.

The following have been added to the list of donations for the Music Hall Ladies' Guild Matinée Fund:—H.M. the Queen, £10; Miss Lottie Albert, £5 5s.; Miss Lily Elsie, £3 3s.; Mr. Fred Russell, £1 5s.; Mr. G. H. Harrop, £2 2s.; Mr. Denhof, 10s. 6d.; Sir Edward Elgar, 10s. (per Miss Lottie Albert); Mr. Harold Seyd, £2 2s.; Mrs. Alfred Butt, £1 1s.

The following are thanked for gifts of cigarettes for sale at the matinée: Abdulla's, Job Societe, Players, and Martins. Miss Lottie Albert is thanked for providing baskets, ribbons, bags, &c.

Our Gracious Queen.

Mrs. Charles Coborn has received the following letter from the private secretary to H.M. the Queen:—"I am desired by the Queen to tell you how much she enjoyed the matinée yesterday, and how pleased she was with the excellent arrangements which were made. It is a great satisfaction to Her Majesty to learn that the Music Hall Ladies' Guild Fund will benefit so largely by the proceeds of the matinée, and the Queen warmly congratulates the committee and you on the very successful result of your efforts.

"Her Majesty desires me to enclose a cheque for £10 as a contribution to the funds of the Guild, and as the Queen understands that all the chocolates which she proposed to buy were sold, she is sending a few toys and other articles for the benefit of the children of artistes associated with the Guild."

2,000 Wounded Entertained at Norwich.

Upwards of 2,000 wounded soldiers from the various hospitals in and around Norwich attended a special matinée performance at the Norwich Hippodrome on Thursday at the joint invitation of the proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt, the artistes, and the staff. Rarely, if ever, has a more enthusiastic audience assembled, and their cheeriness was simply wonderful.

Appreciation of the programme generally by the "Tommies" was very marked. Mr. F. J. Crotch (Norwich Town Council) voiced the thanks and appreciation of the audience, and Mr. F. W. Fitt referred to the pleasure it gave the artistes, and everyone associated with the management, to contribute a few hours enjoyment to those who had suffered in the war.

Comrades of the War Fund.

The sailors and soldiers have a ready friend in Mr. Austin Devereux, the acting manager of the Empire Theatre, Newcastle. When the funds of "The Comrades of the War" (late "Discharged Sailors and Soldiers' Association) were down as low as £2, an appeal was made to Mr. Devereux for assistance, and that gentleman at once got to work, with the result that, by collections and other efforts, he was enabled to gather the handsome sum of over £100.

Mr. Richard Thornton then generously granted the use of the hall for a concert, the result of which meant a further £200. Thus, in a very short time, practically £300 were added to the funds of a society that is doing so much admirable work for men who have given of their very best for the country's sake.

The Ladies' Guild Children's Party.

The committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild desire to heartily thank all those who have so kindly contributed towards the children's Christmas party, which took place on Friday last at the Horns Hotel, Kennington. The youngsters had a most enjoyable time. They were given a hot dinner, and games, entertainment, and tea followed. Then the huge Christmas tree was stripped, and each child went home laden with toys, after being provided with clothing and boots from the Guild by the committee the day previously.

The good work did not end here. Fifty-seven families were supplied with joints of English beef, and many with plum puddings. Mr. Samuel Isaacs kindly sent two baskets of apples (per Miss Lottie Albert). The comfort of the children was looked after by Mrs. Charles Coborn, Miss Lottie Albert, Miss Rose Levy, Mrs. Fred Millis, Miss Maude Mortimer, and Miss Irene Rose, assisted by Mr. and Miss Denhof.

Boy Scout Entertainers.

A novel and interesting entertainment was produced last week by the East Twickenham Troop of Boy Scouts. This versatile company of juveniles, foremost in entertaining in the scouting world, have added considerably to their last production, and "The Troop's Tour," which is the name of their new show, includes campanology and specialty dancing, for which they have been trained by Mme. Blanche Huby, of Brinsworth House, Twickenham. All the productions of this troop are under the direction of Tucker Williams, their Scoutmaster.

"Father and Son."

Tom Waters and Eddie Morris have just completed two weeks' return engagement at Belfast and Dublin in their delightful little sketch, "Father and Son," where their success has been very gratifying. The boys are this week at the Grand, Birmingham. I hear that a prominent Irish dramatist is anxious to collaborate with Messrs. Waters and Morris with a view to extending the playlet into a comedy-drama.

American Artistes and Brinsworth.

Additional contributions to the appeal originated by Mooney and Holbein and Jesse Jacobson and the Two Rascals in aid of Brinsworth are: James Carew, £2 2s.; Will H. Fox, £2 2s.; Torino, £2 2s.; Ford and Urma, £2 2s.; Barton and Ashley, £1 1s.; Harry Taft, £1 1s.; W. Ellwanger, £1 1s.; Carl Hertz, £1 1s.; Frank Whitman, £1. All cheques and orders should be crossed and made payable to Mooney and Holbein, Vaudeville Club, 98, Charing Cross-road.

Miss Mary Law.

Miss Mary Law, after a successful concert tour in Wales, Wiltshire, Yorkshire, and Nottinghamshire, was back in variety recently at the Birkenhead Hippodrome, where she met with her usual success. Miss Law will not be heard in London again until February 9, when she will be the solo-instrumentalist at the London Ballad Concerts, after which she goes to the Victoria Palace and then makes her first appearance at the Palladium. With the exception of three weeks in January, Mr. George Barclay has fully booked Miss Law until July, 1919.

MY MUSIC HALL TOUR.

CHRISTMAS CAROLS AT THE PAVILION AND SOME VICTORIAN VOCALISTS.

For a week before Christmas no carols came to my door. Night after night I waited in, hoping to hear piping voices relate the story of Good King Wenceslaus, or express the pious wish that nothing might me dismay—but all in vain. I suspect that the queues had given the carols their quietus. So on Christmas Eve I decided that, if the carols would not come to Extra Turn, Extra Turn must go to the carols. And, recollecting that the Dickens Christmas, which is what we really celebrate to-day, originated in Victorian times, I braved the blighting blast and sallied forth to hear what Victorian ditties they were singing at the Victoria Palace.

At the Victoria Palace.

Almost as soon as I got inside, I caught a glimpse, as it were, of Christmas. For on the boards came Nellie Wigley, the "Charming Prince Charming," in black riding habit, golden boots, and equally golden hair—pantomime two days early. Her strong soprano voice, which is at its best in pianissimo passages, took us through "Some Day You'll Care" and a Scottish song about a Highland laddie, and I found I was beginning not to mind about the carols after all.

Delino I missed, but I found J. W. Rickaby at the top of his form. Rickaby gave us three songs—"Major-General Worthington," "I'm Always Thinking of Her," and "I May Be Right, I May be Wrong"—and each one scored a bull. None of these has yet attained the universal popularity of, say, "Tennessee" (though "Worthington" is pretty well known), yet such is the magic of Rickaby that the audience joins in the choruses almost "first go off"—which is what every artiste wants. You can tell that it's what every artiste wants by the way in which, turn after turn, they try to get the public on the hum; but in many cases the audience flatly refuses, and the singer, after putting his hand significantly to his ear, is compelled significantly to take it away again, and let off some wheeze about people being shy to-night. Not so the debonair Rickaby. He gets his audience straight off—and he keeps them, right in the hollow of his hand, till the next number's up.

The O'Gorman Bros. also went strong. Some of their wheezes are very familiar, especially the one about the fellow who thought he was sitting by a girl in the dark in the park, and at the end of two hours found it was a Gordon Highlander. But, curiously enough, this got the laugh of the evening—and a good old joke is certainly better than a bad new one. Don't think the O'Gormans aren't up-to-date; they are, and they know how to manage themselves. Only here and there they let fall a joke which is just a thought B.C.-ish. Baisden was admirable on his wheel, and I know no acrobat who can make more effect with a failure. Win and Windle did some capital burlesques, especially one on "Marriage—Before and After," which would be worth introducing into the best West End revue. Butt, de Courville, Rolle, Cochran and Co. should go to see it; while Lilian Rickard, who hails from the vales of Wales, may be recommended to the notice of Sir Thomas Beecham. There are many birds which would be proud to sing like Lilian.

And then there was "H. B." in "Waterloo." Perhaps the best thing this famous actor has yet given us. This is the turn of the evening. But it is so well known and has been seen so often that I won't descant (good word, descant) on it here.

At the Pavilion.

Marie Lloyd is at the Pavilion, with new songs. That is "some" news for variety-goers, for there are no lays like the lays of Marie. Even a poor ditty, which would be C3-ish in the hands of any other artiste, is always A1 at Lloyd's, and these new songs are of first-rate quality, quite apart from their rendition. She has some new Paris dresses, too, one of which is a real breath-snatcher—a sort of rising-sun Constantinople-in-Bond-street confection. What could be more alluring—new songs, new dresses, and the old, darling Marie?

Her first song is called "You Like What I Like—A Little Love Now and Then," and she gives it with all that half-simulated huskiness, all that larky, daring flashing of the eyes whenever "the boys" are mentioned, which has endeared her to the heart of the public. Her second song is "coster," real coster—"I Can't Find My Way 'Ome." Coster costume—and a cock-linnet in a birdcage. What happened was this: She and her old man, being in trouble yet again over the rent, did a flit by moonlight, but the van was so full up with furniture that "her old man said follow the van," and she followed. But she dillied, she dallied, she dallied and she dillied, and now—she can't find her way 'ome. "You can't trust these specials like the old-time coppers When you can't find your way 'ome." This is a gem. If Marie ever does really go into revue—for she isn't really "in" "Any Old Thing," though she appears in the middle of it—I pray that Wish Wynne may be coupled in the same bill with her, and that they may give us some Cockney scenes together.

Marie's last lay is in the character of a middle-aged woman, and the burden goes, "I Can't Forget the Days When I Was Young." Here, again, she sings and foots it in first-rate style. And winks it, too. In this department Marie is, of course, incomparable. Marie Lloyd gives you one wink and you go home happy—unlike other comediennes I could mention, who give you forty winks, and you go home rubbing your eyes.

EXTRA TURN.

War Seal Concert at Leicester.

A successful evening concert took place, by kind permission of Mr. Oswald Stoll, at the Leicester Palace Theatre on Sunday, the principal artistes being Mr. John Buckley, the famous bass; Miss Dorothy Robson, soprano; and Sharp's Tromboneers, in special selections. Mr. C. W. Freeman played a piccolo solo, and Little Miss Mavis Clarke Parker gave a charming recitation. The Palace orchestra, augmented to 30 for this occasion, under Mr. John W. Lowe, was another popular feature.

The whole of the arrangements were carried out by Mr. Trueman Towers, the acting manager. The proceeds of the concert were on behalf of the War Seal Foundation, which has many enthusiastic workers in Leicester.

The King's, Sunderland.

The King's Theatre, Sunderland, has been purchased by George and Alfred Black, who have large interests in the North of England in music halls and cinemas, and control theatres in Newcastle, Gateshead, West Hartlepool, Wallsend, North Shields, Blyth, Smethwick, and Wednesbury, &c. It is their intention to continue running the King's with high-class entertainment consisting of dramas, musical comedies, &c.

In the summer the house will be closed and entirely renovated and redecorated, making it one of the most attractive theatres in the provinces. It has a seating capacity of 3,000. One of the partners, Alfred Black, is in Mesopotamia at the present time in the Light Armoured Motor Battery Section of H.M. Forces.

The Terriers.

At the meeting on Sunday last, Walter Norman officiated as W.T., Capt. De Villiers as V.T., Ben Woodger G.C., Guy Shanks W.I., Fred Hughes W.D., G. Stebbings Y.B., and Ernest Powell as Organist.

A hearty welcome was extended to Ernest Powell and G. Stebbings upon their re-appearance in the Kennel.

Letters have been received from Terriers Jack Harris (Germany), Jack Anderson (France), Ernest Dillon (Egypt), Charlie Chanden (Brighton), Harry Alvey (Leeds), Fred Dunstone (France), Zaleski (France).

The annual general meeting will be held on Sunday, Jan. 27, 1918, at 5.30 sharp.

As the books of the Order for the current year will be closed at Dec. 31, members are kindly asked to forward arrears of subscriptions as soon as possible.

V.A.B.F. and I.

Miss Helen Brinckman kindly went down to the Institution on Thursday, the 20th, and gave a delightful rendering of Dickens's "Christmas Carol," to the great enjoyment of all the old folk present. Miss Brinckman also generously provided "creature comforts" of a liquid and smokable kind. A vote of thanks proposed to her by C. Douglas Stuart, the secretary, was enthusiastically endorsed. This is the fifth time Miss Brinckman has given up her time to entertain the residents at "Brinsworth." To add to the pleasure of the evening, the choir of All Saints Church, under the direction of Mr. Ramsay, the choirmaster, and by kind permission of the Rev. Camplin Cogan, the vicar and hon. chaplain of the Institution, who was present with his wife and daughter, sang a number of Christmas carols.

THE PILGRIM.

WAVERLEY MARKET CARNIVAL, EDINBURGH.

The Waverley Market Carnival at Edinburgh, has come to be recognised as an annual institution in the city during the Christmas and New Year holiday time. Mr. F. A. Lumley is again the lessee of the market this year. In compliment to our American Allies, the interior of the market has been transformed, by a scheme of decorations which introduces views of the principal American cities, into a bright hall of amusement.

The stage performances introduce many clever artistes in their respective lines. Clifford and Gray give a wonderful exhibition of hoop rolling and spinning; the Five Lisbons display remarkable agility, and put in some amusing work in their roller skating act; the Simonoffs are clever and dexterous acrobats; Miss Gilvio and company are smart gymnasts; the Gosmans submit an excellent equestrian sketch; the Mongadors are admirable jugglers, while juveniles and grown-ups alike are catered for by Lieut. Chard's troupe of performing dogs and Lord John Sanger's musical sea lions. The Glenroy Troupe of dancers submit a pleasing turn; Astley American Circus contributes an amusing entertainment; and the Ben Bojamas Troupe of Arabs are daring acrobats. Of side shows there are a surprising diversity, and the shooting booths, merry-go-rounds, and Aunt Sallies provide further opportunities for enjoyment; and the Coney Island Orchestra, under the direction of Mons. Phil R. Mony, discourses excellent music.

Jane Croft.

Miss Jane Croft is singing that ever-popular number, "There's a Ship That's Bound for Blighty," by Worton David and Horatio Nicholls, with great success this week at the London Opera House.

Jay Whidden Goes North.

The popular violinist, who is playing Hammersmith and Putney this week, is due at the King's, Dundee, next week, but returns to the L.T.V. halls immediately, opening at Shepherd's Bush on Jan. 21.

Amy Evans.

Miss Evans is giving a most artistic rendering of Worton David and Horatio Nicholls' ballad, "When God Gave You to Me," at the Palladium this week. Miss Evans is making this her concluding item.

New Conductor at the Euston.

On Monday we recognised a familiar face in the chair, otherwise Ernest Oram, who was for some years at Golders Green, and more recently with the touring shows of "Joyland" and "Good-Bye-ee." Murray Herriott, the popular manager here, reports that business is quite good.

Witt and Butt.

Those popular rag-timers, Paul and Teddie, described by the local Press at Exeter as "the smartest turn in vaudeville," opened in town this week on the L.T.V. halls at the Putney Hippodrome. This couple are great favourites in the provinces. It was from the Palace, Bath, that Paul and Teddie joined up into a double act.

At the Palace, Huddersfield, this rising young comedian scored a big success. Sandy is now playing principal comedian in "Sinbad the Sailor" at the Rotunda, Liverpool.

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BUILD up your reputation in pantomime by singing

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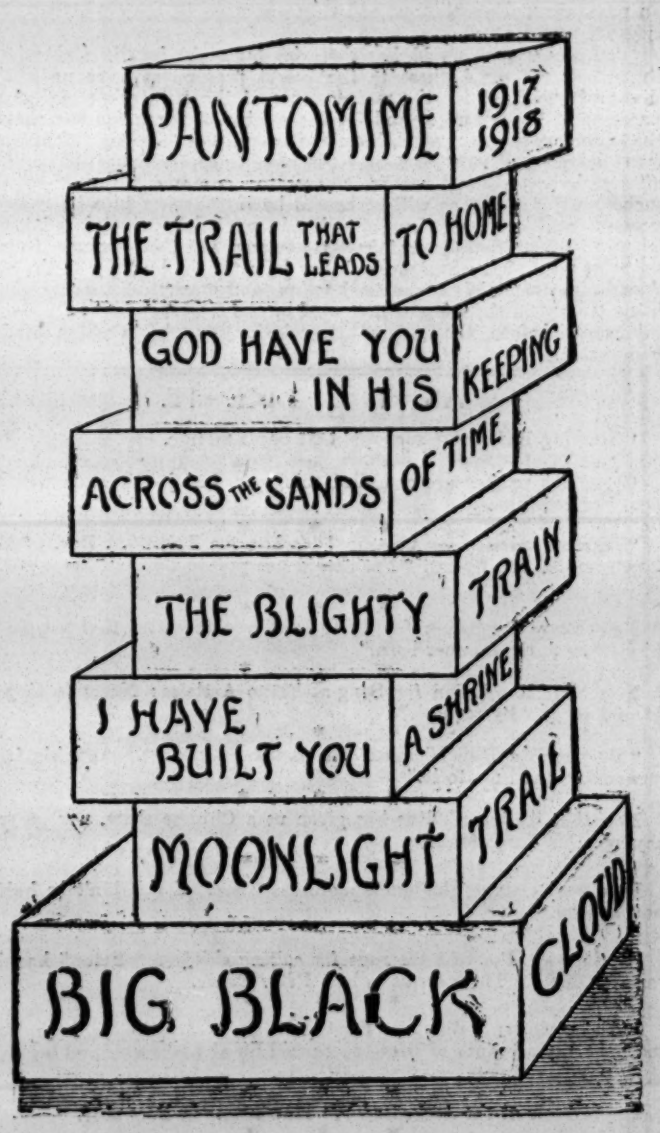

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DOWN TEXAS WAY.
DO YOU LIKE ME?
YOU OUGHTN'T TO DO IT.
MY BABY SOLDIER BOY.
WHEN THE BELLS OF PEACE ARE RINGING.
MY OWN IONA.
THEY'RE WEARING 'EM HIGHER IN HAWAII.
SULLIVAN WILL BE THERE.
MAMMY'S LITTLE COAL BLACK ROSE.
I DON'T WANT TO GO BACK.

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THERE'S A GIRL FOR EVERY SOLDIER

I WANT YOU TO KNOW I MISS YOU

OH! IT'S A LOVELY WAR

I RATHER LIKE IT

YOU WERE VERY GOOD TO ME

CHEERIO, SAILOR BOY

COME TO MY GARDEN OF PARSNIPS

IPECACUANHA, AND

THAT'S THE STUFF TO GIVE 'EM

Compliments of the Season to All.

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BENNETT SCOTT.

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VARIETY CARDS.

These cards are inserted at 38/- for thirteen issues (small space) of "The Era."

IMPORTANT TO ARTISTES.

Additions and Corrections to these Cards must reach us not later than Tuesday, 1 p.m.

THE MUSICAL
ELLIOTT SAVONAS
In "THE PALACE OF ORPHEUS."
Business only through W. BENTLEY or G. BARCLAY, or direct to H. ELLIOTT.
Next Week, LLANELLY.

THE FIVE SISTERS
Real Sisters. Introducing Pianos, Mandolines, Singing, Violin & Acting.
Own Beautiful Setting carried. Different to all other Musical Acts.
This, CITY OF VARIETIES, LEEDS. Next, ALHAMBRA, BARNSLEY.
Perm. Address, 2, INGLEWOOD MANSIONS, WEST END LANE, N.W.

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ON TOUR.

"DIVINA"
Bronze Medallist, I.L.A.M., Elocution. The Miniature Pavlova.
ON TOUR.
All coms., MACCLARE, 39, NORTH END ROAD, GOLDERS GREEN, N.W. 3.

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The Original Jolly Dutch Girl. "Cute and sassy."
ON TOUR. All coms. to Business Manager, BERTRAM C. GRANT, 7, Exeter Mansions, 106, Shaftesbury Avenue, W. 1.

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Until 1927.

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THE RISING YOUNG COMEDIAN.
PRINCIPAL COMEDIAN in
"SINBAD THE SAILOR."
ROTUNDA, LIVERPOOL.

LILIAN LE MAIN
COMEDIANNE & DANCER.
This Week, ROTUNDA, LIVERPOOL.

KATIE HUGHES
Playing Dandini in Chas. Gulliver's production of Cinderella,
LEWISHAM HIPPODROME.
Sole Agents, F. and H. REEVES.

WILL VAN ALLEN
COMEDIAN WITH SOME MUSIC.
This Week, LONDON. Next, KING'S THEATRE, SOUTHSEA.

McALLISTER & SMITH
This, HIPPO., ROTHERHAM. Next, PAVILION, AYR.
VACANT, Jan. 7, Feb. 4 and 11, 1918 (Want North).
All good wishes for the coming Season.

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IN THEIR ARTISTIC MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT.
P.A., 68, Crescent Lane, Clapham Park, S.W. 4.

FRANK POWELL
CHARACTER PATTER COMEDIAN.
Always working. This Week, READING.
Agent, WALTER BENTLEY

Mr. HYMACK
"'AT BOGEY VILLA' is as perplexing as ever. There is no need to speculate how the changes of costume are worked. It is sufficient to remark that he has no competitors in his line."—BIRMINGHAM DISPATCH, July 10.
Dec. 31, c/o "The Era." Jan. 7, KING'S THEATRE, DUNDEE.

BRUCE GREEN
THE DAME OF DAMES.
Pantomime Dame at ALHAMBRA, GLASGOW.

FLORENCE HELM
PRINCIPAL BOY.
HOWARD & WYNDHAM.
THEATRE ROYAL, NOTTINGHAM.

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PRESENTS THE FARCICAL SKETCH,
"HUNTING TROUBLE,"
With the Original Company, including the **FAMOUS ACTOR DONKEY.**
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THE ENTENTE CORDIALE COMEDIENNE IN HER NEW ACT.
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Soprano Violin—'Cello—Piano.
Last Week, HIPPO., NORWICH. (Record Success, Topping Bills)
Leading Tours Booked 1918. **This Week, HIPPO., IPSWICH.**
Next, TIVOLI, BARROW-IN-FURNESS. Wanted Jan. 7, 14, LANCS. or YORKS.

FATTY ROMA
Playing DAME in
CHAS. GULLIVER'S "MOTHER GOOSE."
L.T.V. Circuit.

WILKIE BARD
This Week, THE PALLADIUM.

G. H. ELLIOTT
This, LONDON COLISEUM.
Address, 95, RICHMOND ROAD, LONDON, E. 8.

Miss HETTY KING
Wishes to notify all that her sole business arrangements are in the hands of Mr. HARRY DAY, of Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, to whom all communications must be addressed.

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PRINCE'S THEATRE, BRADFORD, for run of Pantomime.
Coms., N.V.A., 18, CHARING CROSS ROAD.

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This, KINGSTON EMPIRE.
Next, NOTTINGHAM EMPIRE.

HOPE CHARTERIS
SOPRANO.
This Week, OXFORD & CHELSEA PAL.
All coms., W. H. PRICE, ASHTON'S ROYAL AGENCY, 33, OLD BOND STREET, W.

Takeo & Koma NAMBA
Japanese
Eccentric Entertainers.
IN AN EXTRAORDINARY OFFERING
This Week, HIPPO., PORTSMOUTH.
Agents, EDELSTEN and BURNS.

GUS OXLEY
Principal Comedian,
CINDERELLA.
THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH.

COMEDIAN AND DANCER.
JACK SMILES
Coms., 11, Woodville Road, Leytonstone, E. 11.

LE PREMIER SENSATIONAL CHAIR BALANCING ACT
Betancourt
BET-AN-COURT
THE FRENCH CUBAN
All invited to see a new style of REFINED and ORIGINAL COMEDY.
Dec. 24, EMPIRE, KILBURN, 8-10 and 10-30.
Dec. 31, CAMBERWELL PALACE, or L.T.V. Hall.

FORD and TRULY
(CHUMS IN VAUDEVILLE).
Featuring "TRULY" the ONLY Mimic Dog.
NOUVEAU CIRQUE, PARIS.
All coms., GEO. BARCLAY.

HENRY J. CORNER
Presents
"SYMPHONIA."
This Week, PALACE, BLACKBURN. Next, HIPPO., NORTHAMPTON.

Three SISTERS O'HARA
The "GREAT TYPE" Entertainers.
ON TOUR.
Agent, CHAS. HAND.

"Roses and Radishes, Pansies and Peas."
NIXON GREY
COMEDIAN.
34, Amhurst Road, Bournemouth.

SCOTT and WHALEY
Starring in
"THE SUGAR BABY."
This Week, THE MIDDLESEX. Next, CLAPHAM.

HARRY IDA
LINDEN & BERRIDGE
AUSTRALIAN COMEDY COUPLE.
Doing splendidly this week at the EUSTON.
Next Week, PALLADIUM, SOUTHPORT.

HARDEEN
ILLUSIONIST AND SELF LIBERATOR.
ON TOUR.

LITTLE RENE LISTER,
The Wonderful Little French Artiste,
THE HAPPY FAMILY
AT THE
STRAND THEATRE, LONDON.

MARIE ELLIOTT,
SCOTCH CHARACTER COMEDIENNE AND DANCER,
Is Vacant New Year Week, Dec. 31, through misunderstanding.
This, HIPPO., STOCKTON-ON-TEES. Dec. 31 Vacant. Wire! Wire!!

KID JOHNSON
THE WANDERING PUGILIST. IN AMERICA.
A Peaceful Christmas to all. Hail! thou ever-blessed morn! Hail! redemption's happy dawn! Sing through all Jerusalem, Christ is born in Bethlehem.

BEN TAYLOR AND BONNY BROWNING
As ABANAZAR. As ALADDIN.
In P. T. SELBIT'S production.
Opens this week at PAVILION, LIVERPOOL, for a ten weeks' season.

NEIL GOW
The Scottish Comedian.
Idle Jack in "Dick Whittington."
ELEPHANT AND CASTLE THEATRE.

FRED DUPREZ
(MR. MANHATTAN)
Pantomiming at KING'S, EDINBURGH.
"My first offence and doing fairly well. But I think I must practise a couple of falls and slides on the ear to do real good."

LUCY BRENNAN
CHARACTER COMEDIENNE.
Enormous Success of "A SOLDIER'S WIFE," by Fred Austin.
This, HIPPO., ST. HELENS.
All coms. - - - WHITEMAN'S AGENCY, LEEDS.

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JOHNNIE FIELDS
In "ARLETTE," at the Shaftesbury Theatre, W.
Under Management of GEORGE GROSSMITH & EDWARD LAURILLARD.

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THE ONLY
TALBOT O'FARRELL
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MARY MAYFREN
"THE WOMAN OF LOUVAIN."
This Week, GRAND, CLAPHAM.
All Coms.—WALTER BENTLEY.

For other Variety Cards see page 18

LAKE'S VARIETY AGENCY, 1a, Southampton Row, W.C. 1.
Telegrams:—"MOCCADORA, LONDON."
Telephone:—MUSEUM 2176.

Filmland

NEWS AND REVIEWS OF THE PICTURE WORLD

"MISS NOBODY."

GIRL OF UNKNOWN PARENTAGE PROVES TO BE SCION OF A NOBLE HOUSE.

Production .....Pathé Gold Rooster
Star .....Gladys Hulette
Type .....Drama
Length .....Five Reels
Release .....May 6, 1918
Distributors .....Pathé Frères

The above was the principal picture shown at Pathé's Private Theatre on the 20th inst. Roma, the heroine, is of unknown parentage. Unable to enlighten her, but seeing that her happiness is at stake, her guardians tell her she is the descendant of a noble English family. She meets and falls in love with Jack Thurston, nephew of Lord Pembroke, and after many vicissitudes discovers she is really the daughter of Lord Pembroke, and all ends happily with her betrothal to her cousin Jack. Miss Gladys Hulette gives another capable portraiture in the character of Roma. Some very effective scenes are screened, and humorous and dramatic incidents abound. The photography and general production are well up to this company's standard.

[*See our Film Markings.*]

"TOM JONES."

FIELDING'S CELEBRATED STORY ON THE FILM.

Production .....Ideal
Star .....Langhorne Burton
Type .....Drama
Length .....Six Parts

Henry Fielding's engrossing story attested at the West End Cinema trade show on Wednesday, 19th inst., and there is no manner of doubt that it will be passed A1 by popular verdict. Mr. Eliot Stannard, the gifted son of a gifted mother, "John Strange Winter," has provided a beautiful and refined scenario. The stirring and picturesque period of the novel lend themselves to the high art of photography as practised by Mr. Lauri, and the film is splendidly produced by Mr. Edwin J. Collins. Mr. Langhorne Burton makes a handsome and romantic figure of the hero, and enlists the sympathies of the audience throughout. The ideally innocent and youthful heroine, Sophia Western, is sweetly and attractively played by Miss June, and the jovial, hard-drinking, obstinate Squire Western is ably portrayed. Among the most striking scenes are the rescue of Sophia from poachers in the wood, and a naval banquet, where our hero fights for the honour of the heroine. This film is likely to take prominent rank with the other noteworthy Ideal records of famous stories.

[*See our Film Markings.*]

"THIS IS THE LIFE."

HERO WHOSE FAVOURITE HOBBY IS THE MOVIES

Production .....William Fox
Star .....George Walsh
Type .....Comedy-Drama
Lentgh .....4,500 Feet

In the breezy and diverting comedy-drama, "This is the Life," screened at the Super Cinema on Wednesday, Mr. George Walsh is seen as a genial and athletic young man-about-town, who is very keen on moving pictures, and keener still on a pretty girl whom he believes is the "Movie Queen." The fun begins when he goes to the dentist to have a tooth removed; and after that the hero has a most exciting time—or, rather, he and the onlookers think he has—ere he recovers from the effects of the gas administered by the dentist. He has many thrilling adventures looking after a shipload of munitions bound for a South American port; and later, when he proudly imagines he is the hero in a moving picture company, is mistaken for a revolutionary, and is in danger of being shot. When he finally comes back to earth in the dentist's chair our hero decides that he has had quite enough of being a movie actor, and we gather will settle down in real earnest to his father's business. Mr. George Walsh gives a very exhilarating and attractive portrayal throughout.

[*See our Film Markings.*]

"THE LATE LAMENTED."

"DEAD" ARTIST PAINTS PICTURES AND IS COINING MONEY TILL DEALERS FIND "WET PAINT."

Production .....Triangle-Keystone
Star .....Mary Thurman
Type .....Comedy
Length .....Two Parts
Release .....Feb. 25, 1918
Distributors .....Triangle

Two artists, failing to make much money by painting pictures, one insures his life and the other draws the premium on his supposed demise. Their model takes one of the pictures in lieu of wages and sells it for £5,000, and fresh ones are painted at top speed and sold. The model claims to be the wife of the supposed dead artist, and the picture finishes up with an amazing race, in which ostriches, scooters, and motor-cars are mixed up in a laughable and bewildering fashion. Mary Thurston gives an amusing and vigorous performance as the model, and the whole company enter well into the fun of the piece

[*See our Film Markings.*]

"A STRANGE TRANSGRESSOR"

A TALE OF ILLICIT LOVE AND ATTEMPTED REVENGE.

Production .....Triangle
Star .....Louise Glaum
Type .....Drama
Length .....4,550 Feet
Release .....April 29, 1918
Distributors .....Triangle

The above drama was filmed by Triangle at their trade show at the Shaftesbury Pavilion on Friday last. Louise Glaum enacts the character of a widow with an only son, who is living under the protection of a famous surgeon. This surgeon marries a girl moving in his own circle, and in revenge Louise ensnares the surgeon's son in her toils. A highly dramatic turn is given to the picture by the surgeon saving Louise's little boy's life by a delicate operation. All is forgiven, and apparently the eminent surgeon returns to his wife, leaving mother and son together. The tale is somewhat unconvincing, but some very fine and versatile acting is done by Louise Glaum, who, in addition, wears some wonderful frocks and furs. The scenic settings are rich and artistic, and a very fine storm effect is introduced.

[*See our Film Markings.*]

"HASHIMURA TOGO."

CHARMING STORY OF THE ADVENTURES OF A JAPANESE KNIGHT-ERRANT.

Production .....Lasky
Type .....Drama
Star .....Sessue Hayakawa
Length .....Four Parts

A delightful story, woven round the knight-errantry of a young Japanese nobleman, was this Lasky film, screened at the Shaftesbury Pavilion on the 18th. Young Baron Hatzu finds that his brother, who spends most of his time in a notorious tea-shop, has lost a valuable Government document. The tea-shop proprietor copies the document, and, keeping the original, returns the copy to the father. To shield his brother, Hatzu takes all the blame, and is disinherited. Deciding to go to America under the name of Togo, he falls in love with a charming girl on board ship, and, obtaining a situation as manservant in her American home, his chivalry is aroused by miserable complications that arise in the love affairs of Corinne, his mistress, and after many amusing and exciting adventures, he clears away all her difficulties. Eventually, he is proved innocent of all guilt concerning the stolen document, and there are glimpses of a delightful love idyll awaiting him in Japan. Many interesting pictures of Japanese life and customs are screened. Sessue Hayakawa invests the part of Togo with appealing charm and simplicity.

"THE MAN TRAP."

AN EXCELLENT SAMPLE OF THE MELODRAMATIC FILM, CLEVERLY DEVISED AND WELL PLAYED.

Production ..... Phillips
Star ..... Herbert Rawlinson
Type ..... Drama
Length ..... Five Parts

This sensational "crook" play, shown at the Shaftesbury Pavilion on Wednesday, has for its leading character John Mull, a newspaper man, who is sent to prison on a long term sentence on a trumped-up charge. At the end of a year, however, Mull seizes an opportunity of effecting his escape, and the man-hunt by the prison warders which follows gives scope for some of the most effective pictures in the production. Steadman, the proprietor of the newspaper with which Mull was connected, is at the head of the conspiracy which led to the young man's committal to prison, and with him is associated a rascally police-inspector named Finch. After Mull has made his escape from jail, Steadman is murdered, and the newspaper reporter succeeds not only in clearing himself, but in bringing the capital crime home to Finch. The usual love interest is not lacking in the story, and Mr. Herbert Rawlinson makes an ideal hero of melodrama, ably supported by Ruby La Fayette as Mull's old mother, and Sally Starr as the girl he loves.

[*See our Film Markings.*]

LUCERNE TO ST. GOTHARD.

At Reynolds' House, Great Newport-street, on Thursday, the Anglo-Swiss Trading Co., Ltd., screened a very beautiful and interesting Swiss scenic in "From Lucerne to the St. Gotthard," in four independent parts, each part being about 350 feet. We are shown various villages in Lucerne, with some fine studies on the lake and views of the imposing mountains. Part II. takes us to the "Axenstrasse," hewn high above the level of the lake into granite rocks falling perpendicular into the sea, to the pretty village of Fluelen, where is shown the monument erected at Altdorf to William Tell. By rail we reach Goeschenen, and see the Devil's Bridge, and the ravine through which the river has eaten its way deep into the hard rock, and the waterfall just below the bridge. The glacier of the Rhone is shown in Part III., first in the distance, then from quite near, and we also see a most difficult passage across the glacier. In Part IV. we are taken from the Rhone Glacier to Andermatt; we see the Furka Pass 8,000 feet above sea-level, descend to Reealp, and are shown the villages of Hospenthal and Andermatt. Altogether, a very interesting and beautiful series.

LATEST OFFICIAL WAR PICTURES.

The War Office Cinematograph Committee gave a private view of their two latest official war films at the Scala Theatre on the 18th inst "With the Forces in Mesopotamia" shows the main street of Baghdad, with the buildings cut away by the Germans and Turks to make the road fit for military use. Scottish and Indian troops are shown on the march, followed by the bridging of the Tigris by the R.E.s. Typical bazaar scenes, with their motley crowds and heavy guns in action, are highly picturesque. The picture concludes with a view of Samarra Station, with German locomotives, of the Beghdad railway, after being captured by the British.

OUR NAVAL AIR POWER.

The growth of this arm of the Service may be gauged by the fact that in 1914 the personnel numbered 700, whereas in 1917 it has increased to 41,000. The spectator is shown one of the air training schools, where the newly joined air mechanic is put through his facings, and probationary officers being instructed in flying. The work of the submarine spotters, the evolution of the seaplane to the latest type of super seaplane, with its speed of 125 miles per hour, and some marvellous photographic records of various types of planes in flight, are all included in one of the most interesting films yet released by the War Office.

THE ERA ANNUAL

50th (Jubilee) Year of Publication,
WILL CONTAIN

THE FILM MARKINGS

OF ALL
FILMS (EXCLUSIVES) ISSUED FROM June 1st to December 31, 1917,

Owing to paper shortage the Edition will be limited; therefore, to secure a copy, please fill up the following Form and post to The Manager, The Era, 35, Wellington Street, London, W.C. 2. at once.

Please supply One Copy of THE ERA ANNUAL, 1918, as soon as published, for which I enclose P.O. value **1/8.**

Name.....

Address.....

.....

LOOK OUT

FOR

GAUMONT'S

BIG

ANNOUNCEMENT

NEXT WEEK.

FILMLAND GOSSIP

On These Dark Nights.

Accidents will happen these dark nights. At East Ham Corporation Highways Committee, the town clerk submitted a letter from a resident of Burges-rd., complaining of an accident to himself through colliding with the railings which surround the stage door of the East Ham Palace in Burges-road, and asking the Corporation either to paint the railings white or to place a light at this spot. The Committee, however, has decided to reply that the forecourt on which the railings stand is a private one, and therefore outside the jurisdiction of the Corporation.

Mr. Lionel Phillips.

Mediocrity is at a discount—energy at a premium. Mr. Lionel Phillips is one of those fortunate mortals who has not a taint of the former, and is specially gifted with the latter. Possessing a genial personality, intuition and business acumen coupled with square dealing, he is a firm believer in the maxim that successful practice should always over-ride antagonistic theory. It is therefore not surprising that a person who combines nearly all the essential qualities of an up-to-date business man should be possessed of that "flair" which enables one to pick out the plums of the market. As an instance of the foregoing we mention the fact that he has secured the world's rights of one of the most notable films of modern times. We refer to "Missing the Tide." Other gems in his collection are "The Gamble for Love," "Daddy," "Les Cloches de Corneville," and last, but by no means least, Samuelson's super film, "My Lady's Dress."

Broadwest.

The first week's showing of "A Gamble for Love" has produced many records, and managers everywhere are immensely pleased with the results. There is not the slightest doubt as to the merit of the film, and its appeal to the public is of the strongest possible kind. The British public are keenly appreciative of British effort always, and the homeliness of the settings and the clever work of the British artistes, when supported with all the ingenuity of a really successful producer like Mr. West, will always pull big houses and enhance the reputation of the theatre where the film appears. We congratulate the Broadwest on their progress.

Gaumont.

The advertising space of the Gaumont Film Hire Service in this issue seems to hold something exceptional in store for us when its secrets are divulged next week. I can assure you that there is a very big exhibitors' proposition coming.

Fox.

Fox's tell us more news about their special trade show next week, special because they are going to show two features then so that their customers may "catch up" on the blank of holiday week. We have already spoken of the first of these, "Miss U.S.A.," and the one to be shown with it is "North of Fifty-three." This latter is a delightful, cheery moving picture of rough and ready life in the great North-West. It gives Dustin Farnum a splendid opportunity of exploiting the humour and manliness for which he is renowned There are some exquisite scenes amongst the eternal snows, making the most picturesque of settings for Dustin Farnum's strength and Gertrude Kingston's dainty beauty.

The Kiddie super picture, "Jack and the Beanstalk," is having the natural success that was foretold for it at the trade show. A great number of the Christmas bookings of this absorbing child's play have already started all over the country, and wherever it is shown packed houses are the rule. It is a sheer delight to hear the children laugh and shout over it.

Soon, too, Fox's will be introducing us to the promised Sunshine Comedies, which have been made under the direction of that master of fun, Henry Lehrman. Those of us who have seen some of these comedies can safely promise you a surprise.

Ideal.

As might have been expected, the announcement by the Ideal of their new picture, "Whoso Findeth a Wife," has created the keenest interest throughout the trade. Probably no book of recent years has caused such a stir among men and women all over the country as Hall Caine's novel, "The Woman Thou Gavest Me." The Ideal's picture is an attempt to answer this famous book, and it is this which has given rise to so much talk on the subject. The trade show will take place shortly.

Probably all theatrical records have been broken by Miss Ruby La Fayette, who, at the age of seventy-three, has made a highly successful début in the pictures as the Mother in the new Ideal picture, "Mother Love." Miss La Fayette, it is worth noting, is the first great-grandmother to blossom out as a film star.

The Ideal have prepared exceedingly handy little booking diaries for presentation to the trade. This useful gift can be obtained gratis on personal application to the head offices of the firm, 76-78, Wardour-street, W. 1, or at any of their branches throughout the country. The diary will be found of real practical value by those who secure a copy,

It is not surprising to hear from the Ideal that their new picture, "Camille," has been an instantaneous success. Not only was the picture received with warm and unanimous approval by the newspapers, but it has carried everything before it at the trade shows, and promises to do record business throughout the country. The splendid staging of the picture, and the magnificent acting of Clara Kimball Young, have helped immensely to make this great emotional drama a real triumph.

Hepworth.

"The Blindness of Fortune" is the title of a Hepworth picture play just issued. It is controlled by Stone's Mutual Films, Ltd., 17, Forman-street, Nottingham, to whom all inquiries should be addressed.

The film features Mr. Lionelle Howard (who is now with His Majesty's Forces) and Miss Chrissie White, who is the star in Hepworth's latest production, the Henry Edwards masterpiece, "Broken Threads."

Pathé.

"Miss Nobody," Pathé's Gold Rooster play, was shown to the trade in the Pathé Roof Garden Theatre last Wednesday, and created a vast impression. That delightful actress, Gladys Hulette, once again plays lead, and enthralls all beholders by her charm and verve in the part of Miss Nobody.

The third chapter of Pathé's "Animated History of the Great War" is a magnificent effort in cinematography, and is even more attractive and interesting than the two former chapters. The release date for this chapter is January 14 next. Pathé's "History of the Great War" is in great demand by all cinegoers.

There will be trade shows on January 1 and 2 of "The Fatal Ring," Pathé's great serial. Once again Messrs. Pathé Frères are surpassing themselves in the artistic booklet they are issuing for this production. Their invitation card too upholds this firm's big name for distinctive and high class publicity.

Fannie Ward, under the Pathé régime has begun work on "Innocent," an A. H. Wood's play, which will be remembered as having been more than ordinarily successful. Miss Ward, it will be recalled, was recently signed by Pathé for the new Pathé plays, together with other very distinguished actors and actresses.

Triangle.

"Wolf Lowry" is the title of the Triangle drama to be shown to the trade on Friday, Jan. 4. It is a Western, starring William S. Hart, who is seen in one of his favourite "good-bad" man parts. Margery Wilson is seen as Hart's leading lady, and Carl Ullman and Aaron Edwards are also in the cast.

George Binns and Maude Wayne are the chief laugh-makers in "A Hindu Hoodoo," the Triangle Keystone to be screened on the same date.

Walturdaw.

Messrs. Walturdaw Co., Ltd., of 46 Gerrard-street, London, W. 1, inform us that they are shortly releasing the latest and most wonderful product of submarine photography under the title of "The Submarine Eye," embodying a love story of most dramatic intensity. This promise to be one of the sensations of the year and wideawake managers are already making inquiries as to bookings. Trade shows will shortly be announced.

This firm is also to release early in March some new comedies—"The Tweedledum and Tweedledee" series. These are put forward as being really funny productions combined with some very clever grymnastic business, and a very handsome heroine. Released in eight one-reelers and three two reelers, it is expected they wil be in great demand.

"The Lass of the Lumberlands."

Bolton's Mutual Films, Ltd., announce a special show of their new serial, "The Lass of the Lumberlands," at their Private Theatre, 89-91, Wardour-street, W. on Jan. 2 and 3, at 2.30 p.m. sharp. Owing to the limited accommodation of the theatre exhibitors are requested to apply for tickets for seats to the above address, as only ticket holders can be admitted. "The Lass of the Lumberlands" is the most exciting and dramatic film that Helen Holmes has ever appeared in.

Mr. H. H. Levenston.

London Independent have secured a valuable addition to their staff of representatives in Mr. H. H. (Monty) Levenston who comes to assist Mr. Davies in the London area, and will cover the district south of the Thames. Mr. Levenston's experience of the cinematograph trade has been a varied one. He was exhibiting films on tour in India for six years, but on the outbreak of war he returned to England in order to join the Army. He served some fifteen months in France, but was wounded, and has since been discharged. Recently he has represented the Globe Film Co. on his own account in Manchester, where his pleasant style and sound business methods won him considerable popularity among Lancashire exhibitors and we can sincerely congratulate both Mr. Levenston and the L.I.F.T. Co. on an association which will be for their mutual advantage.

Film Booking Offices.

Messrs. Essanay have secured a new recruit in Taylor Holmes, a comedian who has already become well known on the American stage.

His first film has just arrived in this country, and will shortly be put on the market by Messrs. Film Booking Offices Ltd. It is entitled "Efficiency Edgar's Courtship."

Apart from the surprising personality of Taylor Holmes in the title-rôle, it is really a masterpiece. The story has a refreshing quaintness, and the outstanding feature is the easy, confidential manner in which the story is unfolded in autobiographical form in the captions. Exhibitors on the lookout for really high-class pictures which will appeal to everybody should not miss "Efficiency Edgar's Courtship."

Help the Blind!

Mr. F. R. Phililpps is leaving nothing undone to ensure the success of his scheme to benefit St. Dunstan's Hostel for Blinded Soldiers and Sailors through the medium of the new Bio exclusive, "If Thou Were Blind." Exhibitors can help the work by booking the film, and either giving a benefit or organising a collection in behalf of the hostel. No hall is too large and none too small to engage in this beneficent work. Sir Arthur Pearson is taking a personal interest in the matter, and it is hoped to hand over something like £10,000 to the fund.

Accrington.

This week the Empire is screening the fairy spectacle, "Snow White."

At Palace Pictures for the first half of the week, "The Heart of a Man," and Episode 7 of the serial "Judex" is shown. For the latter half, "The Primrose Ring" and drama, "The War Waifs."

LOOK OUT FOR
PATHÉ'S COLOSSAL PRODUCTION

WITH PEARL WHITE — THE FATAL RING — WITH PEARL WHITE

A ROMANTIC SERIAL OF LOVE, INTRIGUE, AND DANGER.
TRADE SHOWS:
PATHE ROOF GARDEN THEATRE, WARDOUR STREET, W.,
JAN 1, from 11.30 a.m., and JAN. 2, at 2.30 p.m.

A SENSATION FOR THE COMING YEAR.

"WHOSO FINDETH A WIFE."

FINDETH A GOOD THING.

5 Parts. Released May 20, 1918. Starring JEAN SOTHERN.

This Picture is a Reply to HALL CAINE'S Celebrated Novel,

"THE WOMAN THOU GAVEST ME."

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WE MAKE ALL OUR OWN LANTERN SLIDES
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Belfast.

At Picture House the attractions are "Her Secret" and "Would You Forgive?"

At the Imperial the features are "No. 13 Westbound," "Patria," Episode No. 3, "Christmas Without Daddy," &c.

At the Alhambra "Cal. Marvin's Wife," "Secret of the Submarine," "Uncle Tom's Cabin," and "The Count" are screened.

The Clonard attractions are "The Manxman," "A Dead Yesterday," "Pearl of the Army," &c

Brighton.

Sir William Gentle and an influential committee are promoting a special matinée to take place at the Palladium on Jan. 14, when "The Life of Lord Kitchener" will be shown on the screen. The proprietors will bear all expenses of printing, advertising, &c., besides lending the theatre, and the entire proceeds will be handed to the local branch of the Red Cross.

Mr. S. T. W. Johnson's Palladium attraction on Monday was "An Alpine Soldier," and from to-morrow he presents "Sally in a Hurry" and "A Girl Like That."

At the Picturedrome Mr. A. W. Deer's current programme includes "Flirting with Fate," "Jerusalem," Charlie Chaplin in "The Rink," and "The Girl from 'Frisco." "Such a Little Queen" will be seen from Thursday.

The holiday programme at the Princes includes "Treasure of Heaven," "Harlequinade Let Loose," and "Topsy's Dream of Toyland." For the last three days "Other People's Money" is announced.

"THIS IS THE LIFE." AND HE STILL LIVES! *Fox.*

Buxton.

At Buxton Hippodrome a very fine picture was unfolded in "Ambition." "Under Two Flags" is a success in both acting and setting; and "The Secret of the Submarine" goes on two more chapters.

At Buxton Picture House a fine production is "The Cinderella Girl." Of quite a different nature is "The Wager," and half-a-dozen comedies make up a rare programme.

Dundee.

Mr. Arthur G. Brown's leading film at La Scala on Monday was "The Poor Little Rich Girl."

At the Victoria Palace Messrs. R. C. Buchanan and Stanley Rogers submit "The Iced Bullet." For the latter part of the week "The Cost of Hatred" is the principal feature.

Greenock.

The B.B. Cinema screened during the first half of the week "The Girl at Home." There was also "Luke and the Love Birds." For Thursday, the Samuelson film, "In Another Girl's Shoes."

The principal attractions at the Central are "Would You Forgive?" "Innocence of Lizette," and "Spring Cleaning."

At the Palace, "Love's Old Sweet Song" is the star film.

Leicester.

All the Leicester cinema theatres received permission to open on Christmas Day by the Watch Committee, on which occasion special programmes were screened.

At the Cinema de Luxe Mr. Harold B. Hill for this week is screening four fine Lasky feature films in "A Tyrant of Old Russia," "Her Strange Wedding," "The Inner Shrine," and "The Silent Partner."

Mr. Horace H. Springett, at the Grand Electric, includes "Mother o' Mine" and the Fox production, "The Broadway Sport." The "Judex" serial is another popular feature.

Mr. Jack H. Walter, at the King's Hall, is screening for the whole of the week "Jack and the Beanstalk." There are also numerous other films.

At the Floral Hall Mr. Trueman Towers includes in a big programme "The Heart of a Man," the third episode of the "Patria" serial, "Love and Justice," "A Blissful Calamity," &c.

Mr. Oliver Rogers, at the Imperial Playhouse, has two attractive outstanding pictures in "Seven Sisters" and "A Gamble for Love."

At the Evington Cinema Mr. J. Darby is showing, for the first part of the week, "The Mother of Dartmoor."

Presentation to Mr. Percy H. Miller.

The recent marriage of Mr. Percy H. Miller, the popular manager of the Alexandra Picture Theatre, Southampton, was not allowed to pass without recognition by his fellow-committeemen of the Royal Pier Club at the Constitutional Club on Thursday, the 20th inst. Councillor Dr. A. J. Bathe presided at a little gathering, supported by Messrs. T. and J. R. Burbage, W. R. Vincent, T. Humphreys, N. Gargano, F. Bromley, H. C. Sait ("Era" correspondent and secretary of the presentation), and others.

A handsome silver-mounted oak salad bowl and servers, suitably inscribed, from the members of the Royal Pier Club, was presented to Mr. Miller, and in handing the gift over Dr. Bathe referred to that gentleman's kindness and geniality on all occasions, and wished Mr. and Mrs. Smith long life and happiness, a toast which was enthusiastically honoured, and to which Mr. Miller suitably responded. Thanks to Dr. Bathe for persiding and to Mr. Sait for arranging the presentation concluded a very pleasing function.

Empress, Hackney.

The chief picture here until the 26th is "Stars Their Courses Change," and on the 27th and two following days "A Gamble for Love." For the 31st the feature is "Vera in One Week."

Clarence, Lower Clapton.

Thursday, Friday, and Saturday's programme contains "The House of Fortescue," "Ghost of White Lady," and "Tired Business Man."

Rink, Clapton.

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday this house is featuring "Stars Their Courses Change"; and on Thursday and following days "A Gamble for Love." The selections on the Rink large organ by Mr. J. Franklin are much appreciated.

Chelsea, S.W.

At the King's Picture Playhouse, King's-road, Mr. Hubert Harward is presenting on Monday, "Justice"; and on Jan. 3 "Her Strange Wedding" is included in an excellent programme.

Cadogan Electric Palace.—On Monday "Told at Twilight" (Pathé) is the principal attraction; and on Thursday "The American Aristocracy" heads a capital bill.

At the Imperial Playhouse Mrs. J. Chapman has an excellent bill of fare for Dec. 31, including "Behind the Lines," "Robinson Crusoe," "Topsy's Dream of Toyland," and "Forty Thieves." On Jan. 3 "Land Adventure" and "Snow-White" are seasonable attractions.

Elephant and Castle, S.E.

Elephant Picture Theatre.—On Monday "Destiny" is the principal attraction, and an excellent programme is offered during the holidays.

Hammersmith, W.

The Scala.—Mr. Doncaster is screening on Monday next "Pearl of Paradise," and on Jan. 7 "A Tale of Two Cities."

Islington, N.

At the Angel Picture Theatre Mr. Henry de Solla submits on Monday "The Sixteenth Wife," and on Jan. 3 "The Laughing Cavalier" is included in a capital programme.

Empress Picture Theatre.—Mr. Henry Pesaresi is showing on Monday "A Darling of Paris" (Fox), and on Thursday next "Playing Fair." The orchestra is under the direction of Mr. D. Catteno.

Richmond.

At the Royalty Kinema Mr. Clive has secured a strong programme. On Monday next the star feature is "At First Sight," and on Thursday "Would You Forgive?" and "Lion Hunting in East Africa" are included in a comprehensive programme.

Talbot Kinema Theatre.—Mr. Morris is presenting on Monday "Justice," and on Thursday next "The Long Trail" heads a strong bill. An added attraction at this theatre is the efficient orchestra.

"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE."

Judgment was delivered in the King's Bench Division on the 13th by Mr. Justice Lush in the action brought by the British Actors' Film Co. asking for a declaration that they were entitled to the film rights of the comic opera, "Les Cloches de Corneville," and to perform the instrumental music. The defendant was Mr. James M. Glover, the well-known musician and conductor, and he claimed that he had the right to produce the opera in the United Kingdom, and the plaintiffs were therefore not entitled to show film pictures of the opera and give the instrumental music.

His Lordship, in giving judgment, recapitulated the facts of the case (which have already been given), and said that the question for him was as to whether plaintiffs were lawfully entitled, notwithstanding the defendant's agreement, to exhibit the film with the music, and whether they were entitled to be protected by injunction. Mr. Green, for the defendant, said his rights were under Section 5 of the Copyright Act, 1911. Mr. Hastings contended that Mr. Glover's interest was only by way of licence, and that he could not be said to be an assignee of the copyright. After looking at the Act, he had come to the conclusion there was an assignment to the defendant, who had become the owner of a particular right for a term within specified localities. He did not think Mr. Hastings's contention was right that defendant could produce a kinematograph film under another section of the same Act, and that was reserved to the owner and not to the assignee of the right. In his opinion, the defendant obtained something more than the performing rights, and was entitled to take steps to prevent infringement of those rights. There must be judgment for the defendant, with costs.

The Poplar Hippodrome orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Dick Crean, gave the first of a series of concerts in the C.1 Ward, Brook War Hospital, Woolwich. It was immensely enjoyed by our wounded "boys."

According to a Central News cable from Boston (Mass.), Mr. Henry Clay Barnabee, the operatic comedian, who organised the famous Bostonians Operatic Company and appeared in the Gilbert and Sullivan comic operas for many years, has died there in his eighty-fifth year.

COMING FILM TRADE SHOWS.

LONDON.

Jimmy Dale (F.B.O.), 22, Soho-square, Dec. 28 and 29.

Melissa of the Hills (Bolton), Super Cinema, 11 a.m., Dec. 31.

The Fatal Ring (Pathé), Pathé Roof Garden Theatre, 103-9, Wardour-street, 11.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m., Jan. 1 and 2.

Miss U.S.A., North of 53 (Fox), Super Cinema, 11 a.m., Jan. 2.

Who Was the Other Man? (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 2.30 p.m., Jan. 1, 2, 3 and 4.

Wolf Lowry, A Hindu Hoodoo, Won by a Foot (Triangle), Shaftesbury Pavilion, Shaftesbury-avenue, W., 11 a.m., Jan. 4.

Bolton's Mutual Film Ltd.
89·91, WARDOUR STREET, LONDON, W.
PHONES, REGENT 5232 REGENT 803 TELEGRAMS, MUTUAMOS-GX-LONDON

BELFAST.

The Little Duchess (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 11.30 a.m., Jan. 2.

BIRMINGHAM.

Tom Jones (Ideal), 57, John Bright-street, All day, Dec. 31.

Tom Jones (Ideal), "Ideal" Offices (57, John Bright-street), all day, Dec. 31 and Jan. 1.

This is the Life (Fox), Scala Theatre, 11 a.m., Jan. 1.

A Strange Transgressor, The Late Lamented, When Hearts Collide (Triangle), 144-5, Suffolk-street, 11 a.m., 3 p.m., Jan. 4; 3.30 p.m., 6.30 p.m., Jan. 6.

The Fatal Ring (Pathé), Pathé Theatre, 303, Broad-street, 3 p.m., Jan. 6.

BRISTOL.

The Fatal Ring (Pathé), Queen's Hall, Jan. 13.

CARDIFF.

Features (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 2.15 p.m., every Tuesday.

Features (F.B.O.), 27, Charles-street, every Tuesday.

Features (J. D. Walker), Own Theatre, every Friday.

Features (Paragon Films), Own Theatre, every day.

Two Men and a Woman (F.B.O.), Own Theatre, 11.30 a.m., Dec. 28.

The Last of the Carnabys (Pathé), Pathé Theatre, 13, Charles-street, Jan 1.

Durand of the Bad Lands, Two Little Imps (Fox), The Pavilion, 10.45 a.m., Jan. 1.

A Strange Transgressor, The Late Lamented, When Hearts Collide (Triangle), Principality-buildings, Priory-street, 11 a.m., Jan. 2.

Tom Jones (Ideal), Park Hall, 11.30 a.m., Jan. 8.

The Fatal Ring (Pathé), Olympia, 11 a.m., Jan. 8.

DUBLIN.

The Little Duchess (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 11.30 a.m., Jan. 1.

GLASGOW.

The Guardian, Little Duchess (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 11 a.m. and 2.30 p.m., Dec. 25 and 26.

The Son of the Immortals (Bendon), Cranston's, 11 a.m., Dec. 27.

Tom Jones (Ideal), New Savoy, 11 a.m., Dec. 28.

Miss U.S.A. (Fox), Grand Central Picture House, 11 a.m., Dec. 31.

The Deemster (Jury's), Picture House, Jan. 9.

Golden Rule Kate, A Shanghaied Jonah, The Bookworm Turns (Triangle), 182, Trongate, 3 p.m., Jan. 4.

The Fatal Ring (Pathé), King's Cinema, Sauchiehall-street, 11 a.m., Jan. 15 and 16.

LEEDS.

Back of the Man, His Precious Life, Innocent Sinners (Triangle), Bond-place-chambers, Infirmary-street, Jan. 1 and 4.

The Fatal Ring (Pathé), Theatre-de-Luxe, 10.30 a.m., Jan. 2 and 3.

Miss U.S.A. (Fox), Grand Assembly Rooms, 11 a.m., Jan. 3.

LEICESTER.

Tom Jones (Ideal), King's, 11 a.m., Jan. 2.

Auld Robin Gray (Ideal), King's, 11 a.m., Jan. 8.

LIVERPOOL.

Miss U.S.A. (Fox), Scala Super Cinema, 11 a.m., Jan. 1.

Cheerful Givers, Hula Hula Land, Heart Strategy (Triangle), The Scala, Lime-street, 11 a.m., Jan. 2.

The Fatal Ring (Pathé), Pathé Theatre, 34, Paradise-street, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., Jan. 8 and 9.

MANCHESTER.

Mystery of the Marsh (Phillips), Market-street P.H., Dec. 28.

Miss U.S.A. (Fox), Fox Private Theatre, 28, Deansgate-arcade, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., Dec. 28.

Cheerful Givers, Hula Hula Land, Heart Strategy (Triangle), Triangle House, St. Mary's-street, 11 a.m. and 2.30 p.m., Jan. 1, 3 and 4.

North of Fifty-Three (Fox), Fox Private Theatre, 28, Deansgate-arcade, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., Jan. 3 and 4.

The Fatal Ring (Pathé), Grosvenor Picture Palace, All Saints, 11 a.m., Jan. 10. Pathé Theatre, 15, Deansgate, 3 p.m., Jan. 10.

NEWCASTLE.

The Irresistible Flapper (Broadwest), Gaiety, 2.15 p.m., Dec. 28.

This is the Life, Two Little Imps (Fox), Fox Private Theatre, 20, Westgate-road, 10.45 a.m., Jan. 2.

The Fatal Ring (Pathé), Queen's Hall, 10.30 a.m., and Pathé Theatre, Bigg Market, 2 p.m., Jan. 4.

NOTTINGHAM.

Tom Jones (Ideal), "Ideal" Offices (34, Derby-road), all day, Jan. 1 and 2.

SHEFFIELD.

The Fatal Ring (Pathé), Picture Palace, Union-street, 10.30 a.m., Jan. 1.

Back of the Man, His Precious Life, Innocent Sinners (Triangle), Clayton's Theatre, 11 a.m., Jan. 2.

Tom Jones (Ideal), Union-street Picture Palace, 11 a.m., Jan. 4.

Miss U.S.A. (Fox), Clayton's Bioscope, 11 a.m., Jan. 4.

Mrs. Lloyd George's special matinée, given on the 18th inst. at the Shaftesbury in aid of the memorial to men of North Wales who have fallen in the war, proved a great success, and the gratifying announcement was made from the stage by Mr. Lyn Harding that a sum well over £2,000 had been obtained for the fund. The programme opened with a variety entertainment, which was contributed to by many of the most popular artistes of the day. For the occasion Mr. Louis N. Parker had specially written a "Masque of Welsh Mythology," entitled "The Trasures of Britain," with music by Mr. Ivor Novello. The production, in which about fifty performers appeared, was received with appreciative applause by the crowded audience.

SOUTHAMPTON EXHIBITORS' MEETING.

Mr. H. J. Hood, president of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Cinematogtaph Exhibitors' Association, presided over a very representative gathering of exhibitors at the Alexandra Picture Theatre, Southampton, on Tuesday, December 18, 1917. Mr. W. Gavazzi King, general secretary of the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association of Great Britain and Ireland, attended and gave an interesting address, outlining the principles of and the advantages to be gained by joining the Central Association.

It was unanimously decided by the meeting to join the association and form a representative branch for the district, the following officers being appointed: Chairman, Mr. H. J. Hood (Southampton); vice-chairman, Mr. W. J. Cook (Portsmouth); treasurer, Mr. W. D. Buck (Southampton); secretary, Mr. S. A. Gough (Southampton); three trustees—Mr. A. Schomberg (Southampton), Mr. E. Martin, sen. (Portsmouth), and Mr. Sutcliffe (Bescombe); delegate to the council, Mr. H. J. Hood (Southampton). It was also unanimously resolved that the selection of the committee should be held over until Mr. King had sent down one of his organisers to canvass the county. Votes of thanks to Mr. King for his able address and to the chairman for presiding concluded a very successful meeting.

Christmas Concert.

The concert arranged by Mr. G. F. Sexton, the proprietor of the West-End Cinema Theatre, with the generous co-operation of many talented friends who came forward in answer to his call, for the entertainment of the patients lying in Levy, Medical, King George V., Queen Alexandra, Golding, Paget, Queen Mary, Drummond, and surgical wards on Christmas Day was acclaimed a gigantic success by all who were present. The wounded boys and others had a great treat. Trenches and dug-outs were soon forgotten amidst the joy and mirth raised in the twelve wards by the 65 artistes, led by R. G. Knowles and Eva Moore, who left their own home circle to help brighten the day for our heroes.

Mr. Alvey, the secretary of the hospital, stated that the hospital has never had such a Christmas Day or such a vice-president as Mr. Sexton.

"CINDERELLA" AT THE BRITANNIA.

IMMORTAL.

The Fairy Godmother .....Amy Grey

MORTALS.

Prince Casmir .....Dorothy Sephton
Dandini .....Beattie Browning
Baron de Debtington .....Alec Keith
Cinderella .....Dora Eadie
Tiny .....Fred Poplar
Elvira .....Cissie Coope
Araminta .....Lulu Tudor
Capers .....Alex. Daimler
Duke of Whistbridge .....Eva Banfield
Joseph .....Miss Harrison
De Knapp .....Ivy Astley
Viscount Euchre .....Mabel Mannering
Marquis of Gamesby .....Alice Reeves
Lord Sportinge .....Olive Vernon
Lord Casino .....Elsie Loftus
Rosina .....Julia Kent

The first performances of the pantomime at the Britannia, Hoxton, produced by Mr. Alec Keith, under the supervision of Messrs. Sansom and Appleton, took place on Saturday evening, and the two audiences gave "Cinderella" a very cordial welcome at the house which for so many years was famous for its Christmas piece.

Invented and written by Mr. Stanley Rogers, with music composed and arranged by Mr. Bernard Daly, the ancient nursery tale, is closely followed.

An excellent company has been engaged, the title-part being played by Miss Dora Eadie, who, both as actress and singer, made a decidedly favourable impression on the first night audiences. She sang with good effect, more particularly in the Kitchen scene, when she gave a pleasing ballad and "The Ladies' Band," with a big drum accompaniment. The Prince had a capital representative in Miss Dorothy Sephton, who joined Miss Eadie in a taking duet, "The Twinkle in Her Eye," and gave a charming rendering of "My Garden of Roses." Miss Beattie Browning scored as Dandini, who masquerades as the Prince, and in the first part her song and dance, "Down Texas Way," had a most favourable reception. Although weighted with the responsibilities of production, Mr. Alec Keith did not fail to make a most amusing personage of Cinderella's father, The Baron; and Mr. Fred Poplar cut an exceedingly comical figure as the Baroness in an unsightly crinoline. Mr. Alex. Daimler, as the Baron's gentleman-of-all-work, Capers, did his full share in keeping the ball rolling in the comic scene, and besides giving valuable assistance to Miss Eadie in the Kitchen scene already mentioned, scored with his imitations of the "red-nosed comedian" and other well-known artistes. The Ugly Sisters were amusingly represented by the Misses Cissie Coope and Lulu Tudor, who missed no opportunities of adding to the merriment. Miss Amy Grey as the Fairy Godmother gave a pleasing rendering of "Roses of Picardy," and others deserving of mention are Miss Julia Kent as Rosina, chief lady-in-waiting; Miss Eva Banfield as the Duke of Whistbridge; and Miss Harrison as Joseph, a royal flunkey. The clever specialities by the Floradora Sextette of Dancers were loudly applauded. The first scene—a forest glade—is pretty; and a notable feature is the appearance at the end of the first part of Cinderella's electric lighted coach, drawn by four ponies. The arrangements in the front of the house are well looked after by Mr. Bert Broadbridge, the Brit.'s energetic manager.

CINEMATOGRAPH EXHIBITOR'S ASSOC. REGISTERED.

FIRST MEETING OF NEW COUNCIL.

The newly-elected General Council of the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association Registered was held on Wednesday, December 19, at the Central Hotel, Leeds. Mr. A. E. Newbould presided, and was supported by the vice-president, A. Cunningham, Leeds, and W. Gavazzi King, secretary.

The following officials were elected:—W. Gavazzi King, general secretary; M. Raymond, hon. treasurer; Messrs. A. E. Newbould, Bennell, and Gale, trustees; Messrs. Barker, Morgan, Davies, Bennell, Petrie, McDonald, Briggs, Carlton, Stone, Ravenscroft, Huish, Miller, Channing, Freeman, and Gale; with the president, vice-president, general secretary, and hon. treasurer as ex-officio members, form the Executive Committee; J. A. Seddon, Parliamentary agent; Norman Hart, B.A., hon. solicitor.

The Council considered the resolution of the London and Home Counties branch relative to the length of films, which was remitted from the annual meeting of the Association, and after considerable discussion, Mr. Briggs moved a resolution to the effect that the General Council desired producers and manufacturers to note that the requirements of the business demanded the production of feature films not exceeding 5,000 feet in length.

It was decided that the points made in the debate should be outlined in a draft letter to accompany the resolution, and that this communication should be circulated throughout the trade, including the American manufacturers and producers and the trade Press of both countries. A conference of the trade in England should follow.

The Council gave their support to the York exhibitors in opposing the several requests of the licensing authorities of that city, and agreed, if necessary, to take the case to the House of Lords.

In the course of discussion the chairman said the Home Office was prepared to join in a committee composed of the trade, the Cinema Commission, and the Home Office, to draw up model regulations to be acceptable to the trade, which would later on probably be enforced by Act of Parliament.

Some of the wonderful stories founded on the doings of the R.N.A.S., and contained in that collection of thrills now issued in book form under the title of "The Hornets," are to be dramatised for early production on the variety stage.

"Hermes," the author, is one of the most popular commanders of the Air and Sea Service, and has just completed a Naval spy play, which will be staged at a West End theatre soon after Christmas.

FILM MARKINGS.

For the benefit of Exhibitors in London and the Provinces who are booking their programmes solely on our markings, we are in future giving further details. We would point out that the markings allotted to films in this section are given on their relative drawing power to showmen:—

Reference No. .. .. 6—10.

Suit high-class audience.....A | Suit sensational audience C
Suit average audience .....B | Suit any audience .....D

OPEN MARKET.

Released.	Name.	Brand.	Description.	Feet.	Marks.	Suitability.
Jan. 31 to Feb. 21.	From Lucerne to the St. Gothard	Anglo-Swiss Trading Co.	Interest	4-pts. 350ft. each	6¾-7½	D
Feb. 11	Almost a Husband	A.B.	Comedy	880	6½	B
Feb. 11	The Artful Lodgers	Ham	Comedy	780	6½	B
Feb. 11	The Fortune Hunters	Star Feature	Comedy	1153	6¾	B
Feb. 11	Uncle Sam at Work	Powers	Interest	888	7½	D
Feb. 11	Tacky Sue's Romance	Rex	Drama	1148	6¾	B
Feb. 14	The Prima Donna's Pearls	Helen Series	Railroad-Drama	760	6¾	B
Feb. 14	The Training of Timothy	Funographs	Comedy	734	6½	B
Feb. 14	To the Highest Bidder	Star Feature	Drama	1152	6	B
Feb. 14	Masked Marvels	Joker	Comedy	925	6½	B
Feb. 14	Doing His Bit	Powers	Cartoon-Comedy	381	6¾	D
Feb. 14	Pete the Prowler	Nestor	Comedy	929	6¾	B
Feb. 14	The Trans-Atlantic Screen Magazine	Transatlantic	Interest	557	6¾	D

EXCLUSIVES.

Feb. 11	Luke, Motor Mechanic	Pathé	Comedy	2000	8	B
Feb. 25	The Late Lamented	Keystone	Comedy	2000	8½	D
April 4	Won by a Foot	Western Import	Billikin-Comedy	1000	8½	D
April 22	This Is the Life	Fox	Comedy	—	8¾	D
April 29	A Strange Transgressor	Triangle	Melodr'ma	5000	8¾	B
May 6	Miss Nobody	Pathé	Comedy-Drama	5000	8½	D
June 13	The Man-Trap	Phillips Bluebird	Drama	5000	8¾	D
Not known	Tom Jones	Ideal	Comedy-Drama	5000	8½	B
Not known	His Luck Tramp	Walterdaw Eagle	Comedy	1000	7¼	D
Not known	Torpedoed Cupid	Walterdaw Eagle	Comedy	1000	7¼	D
Not known	He Plays the Hero	Walterdaw Eagle	Comedy	1000	7	D
Not known	Lend Me Your Wife	Walterdaw Eagle	Comedy	1000	7	D
Not known	Jackals of a Great City	Gold Seal	Drama	2000	7½	B
Not known	Little Moccasins	Rex	Drama	2000	7½	B
Not known	Midnight Mystery	Imp	Drama	2000	8	B
Not known	Casey's Border Raid	101-Bison	Comedy-Drama	2000	8	B
Not known	Five Little Widows	Nestor	Drama	2000	8	D

"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE."

High Courts of Justice (King's Bench Division).

BRITISH ACTORS' FILM CO. Ltd., and Another, v. GLOVER and Another.

INTERNATIONAL EXCLUSIVES, LTD, have pleasure in announcing that the question in dispute, as to the music rights of the above Opera, to be used in conjunction with the film version of same, has been satisfactorily settled.

THE BRITISH ACTORS' FILM CO., LTD., have all the necessary authority and rights to use the music of the said Opera in conjunction with the screening of the film version of same, and INTERNATIONAL EXCLUSIVES, LTD., has authority to grant these rights to all agents, territorial buyers and exhibitors of the film.

(*Signed*) F. P. WOODCOCK,
Solicitor for INTERNATIONAL EXCLUSIVES, LTD.

5, HOLBORN, E.C.

December 18th, 1917.

"THE WISE JESTER."—*Vide Manchester Guardian, October 9, 1917.*

"GAY PAREE

Or, A ROYAL DISCOURSE."

(With apologies to W. W. Kelly, Esq.)

(Written and Composed by FRED SHAW).

MARK SHERIDAN as Napoleon

Thanks to W. W. Kelly, Esq., for permission to travesty Napoleon's speech from the "Royal Divorce."

Have purchased an Original Napoleon Semi-stage Coach for Parade, formerly the property of the late Lord George Sanger.

BOOKINGS.

T.R., DUBLIN; HIPPODROME, BELFAST; TIVOLI, NEW BRIGHTON; GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL; COURT THEATRE, WARRINGTON; THEATRE ROYAL, ST. HELENS; THEATRE ROYAL, BURY; THEATRE ROYAL, BOLTON; HIPPODROME, DERBY; HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER; ARDWICK, MANCHESTER, etc., etc., etc.

FIRST VACANT DATE JAN. 14 (?) To precede Belfast and Dublin. March 4 on, with exceptions. Dates rapidly booking.

40 PEOPLE TRAVELLED. BAND FOR PARADE.

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This Week, RESTING. Next, VICTORIA PALACE and KILBURN.

ARTHUR WOODVILLE
This Week, EMPIRE, SWANSEA.

HETTIE HARTLEY
In Character Comedy Songs.
ON TOUR.
No Vacancies until October, 1918.

DE BUSSE
The Man who has made the Piano-Accordion popular in England.
Next Week, MOSS TOUR.

PETER DONALD and META CARSON
Dec. 24, EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM. Dec. 31, HACKNEY EMPIRE.
P.A., 76, THE LAWNS, SHEPHERD'S BUSH. Agent, GEO. BARCLAY.

HUGH E. WRIGHT
"STARKEY" PETER PAN.
NEW THEATRE, W.C.

RENE RALPH
Principal Boy in "Cinderella."
HIPPODROME, LEWISHAM.
Second Season with Mr. CHAS. GULLIVER.

George F. FORD & "'Erb"
A New and Novel Ventriloquial Act. A few immediate vacancies.
All communications, 91, STOCKWELL PARK ROAD, S.W. 9.
or REEVE'S AGENCY, 331, BRIXTON ROAD, S.W.

CISSIE LUPINO
THE CHARMING DANCER.
This Week, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
All Coms., c/o "The Era."

BILLY CHURCHILL
As ABANAZAR—a Hit.
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ON TOUR.

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AT THE PIANO.
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COMEDIAN.
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THE ELITE ENTERTAINERS.
This Week, HIPPO., PUTNEY. Next, L.T.V.

HORACE JONES
Starring in Principal Comedy Part in Harry Day's Revue: "BUTTERCUPS."
ON TOUR.

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VARIETY NOTES.

Jack Birchley.

This versatile comedian has given up the idea for the time being of producing a double act, as his present act has become so popular, and is well booked ahead. It was at the Victoria Palace in July last year that Jack made his first appearance in this country, and he has since played all the halls of note. After a brief visit to the provinces, including Southport and Birkenhead, Jack will be in town again, when we are promised some new features in his show.

Phil Bransby,

the popular coster comedian, was in good form at Walham Green last week, when the audience very quickly took up the choruses of his three numbers. Phil, who is at Southend this week, has just secured a new number, "It's a Great Big Shame No Longer," by Edgar Bateman and Medley Barrett.

Daisy Bindley.

This clever young artiste, who recently concluded a very successful engagement with "Three Cheers," was specially engaged by Arthur Collins from this show for this year's pantomime, in which she plays the part of the Emperor's daughter.

Monty Walker.

After rehearsing for two weeks as principal comedian in a London pantomime, the Yorkshire comedian was obliged to give up his part owing to unforseen circumstances, and has resumed his variety engagements at the Grand, Bolton, this week.

Freda Danilo.

With a couple of good numbers Freda made a very favourable impression at Walham Green last week. The first, entitled "Loving Kid," has a tuneful melody; and the second, which is her own composition, "The White Cowboy," is a number which has been a popular feature of her act.

Irene Rose.

At the Holborn last week this dainty young comedienne was seen in a couple of good numbers, the second being a character song, which was cleverly handled. This week Irene is at the Islington Palace.

Roy Dove Goes to Paris.

Next month the American talkative juggler opens for a season in Paris, after which he will be seen in town again. Just now Roy is busy preparing a new act, which he hopes to produce in a month or so.

Sandy Powell.

MELODYLAND.

Star Music Co.

Reports from the Scottish pantomimes denote that the Star Co.'s songs are greatly in evidence at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow. Daisy Dormer makes a hit with her inimitable rendering of "Down Texas Way"; Marie Brayman receives much applause for her delightful singing of "Swing Me in the Moonlight"; René Walters at the Princess's, Glasgow, wins great admiration for her artistic rendering of "Down Texas Way"; and Lil Sprightly at the Olympia, Glasgow, delights her audience with the same song. Syd Walker in the same panto. scores with "Sing tha tting a ling, ling song."

At the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, Madge White has a rousing reception for her fine working of "There's a Girl for Every Soldier"; and Fred Jockley causes great amusement with the comic chorus song, "Ipecacuanha."

At His Majesty's, Aberdeen, Miss Blanche Pearle makes a hit with "Swing Me in the Moonlight," "Down Texas Way," and "There's a Girl for Every Soldier" are also worked into the panto with enormous success by The Russells. At the Palace, Aberdeen, two most popular numbers are "Down Texas Way" and "Cheerio Sailor Boy." Other great song successes in the pantomimes "op, North" are "Oh, It's a Lovely War," "I Want You to Know I Miss You," "If I Could Turn the Clock Back," "I Rather Like It," and "That's the Stuff to Give 'Em."

Lawrence Wright Co.

"One big, enormous success" is the unanimous verdict of all artistes singing "Just Keep Marching Along." This number will undoubtedly be the biggest chorus song ever handled by the Lawrence Wright Company. Miss Olive Plant is making a great feature of this number at the Grand Theatre Derby, where it is specially dressed and worked with spectacular effects. Marie Claire has made a hit with same in "Forty Thieves" pantomime at the Coliseum, Glasgow. Vine and Brewer are also working this number at the Opera House, Tunbridge Wells.

"Love Come From Your Hiding Place" is being sung to great advantage this week by the Bartle Quartette at the Chiswick Empire. Another artiste giving an excellent rendering of this number is Marcello Molray at the Palace, Huddersfield, and also Miss Loraine West at the Palace, Halifax. It is also one of the outstanding features at the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, as sung by Miss Hebe Bliss.

"When God Gave You to Me," that beautiful ballad by Worton David and Horatio Nicholls, is being featured with great success by Mme. Golda, of the Golda Quartette, at the Empire, New Cross, this week. Mme. Golda is also giving an excellent rendering of "Love Come from Your Hiding Place' Miss Amy Evans is creating unwonted enthusiasm with "When God Gave You To Me" at the Palladium this week.

"Snowtime in Switzerland" is proving one of the outstanding successes for pantomime this season. It is an ideal principal girl number, and is being made a special feature at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, in John Hart's pantomime. It is also being sung by the Sisters Eleanor at Woolwich.

Miss Lilian Rickard, the popular Welsh mezzo-soprano, is meeting with great success at the Victoria Palace this week, singing "When God Gave You To Me," by Worton David and Horatio Nicholls. The "Maple Leaf and Rose" is being sung with great success this week by Harry Taylor, the author-composer, at Ardwick, Manchester. "The Kiss That Made You Mine," a ballad of the lighter type, is being featured very successfully amongst artistes in pantomime this season.

Harry Gribben.

In between his variety engagements Harry is conducting a successful agency business, which promises well for the near future, as his clients appreciate that they are dealing with one having 26 years' experience behind him. This week Harry is a prominent feature at the Regent, Yarmouth, where he is giving his popular scena, "Come Aboard, Sir," supported by a capable company.

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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

DEATH.

WILLMOT.—Suddenly, on Dec. 23, of heart failure, Mr. Fred Willmot (of London and Liverpool), the beloved husband of Mabel Willmot (née Osborn).

IN MEMORIAM.

"CARINA."—In loving memory of Carina Stewart-McDonald née Macreight, afterwards wife of Douglas G. Murray, who died December 28, 1916. "M.10's." "Sleep well, sweetheart," Don.

CULLING.—In fond and loving memory of my dear wife (Ada Clare), who died December 31, 1903.—Otto C. Culling.

MELVILLE.—In loving memory of George Melville, the actor, who died Dec. 26, 1898. "The dawn of that day shall be bright, When God shall again His saints unite." Affectionately remembered by his loving daughter, Alice.

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These calls are communicated by the management for the convenience of Artistes without prejudice.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1917.

No Deputies will be accepted at Rehearsals. Any Artistes absenting themselves will be liable to have their contracts cancelled.

THE LONDON HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for "Zig-Zag."

EMPIRE, FINSBURY PARK.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Baisden, Derra De Meroda, Ernest Hastings, &c.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Will Hay, Duncan and Godfrey, Les Trombetta, and Company as booked.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
S. W. Wyndham, Barton and Ashley, Piccadillians, Shawlene, Cornalla and Eddie.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

BROADWAY T., NEW CROSS.
Picture entertainments.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Frank Whitman, Emilie Hayes, Sam Stern, The Four Clovelly Girls, Five Wartons.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Well and Smith, Emeric and Ainslie, Mdme. Sabonoff, etc.

PANOPTICON, CARDIFF.
Picture entertainments.

OLYMPIA, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Brand and Shaw, Hilda Lethwaite.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Elsie Roby, Giordano, Purcella Bros., Agda and Co., Alfredo, Harry Bedford.

EMPIRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Waters and Morris, Molly Butler, Meteor Trio, Gomez Trio.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Marie Kay, Betty Washington, The Six Q's, Sylphide Sisters.

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Evelyn and St. Heller, Dainty Doris, Lawrence Barclay, 3 Merrills, Jean Schwiller and Co.

NEW PALACE, SUMMERHILL, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Julian Vedey, Holly Grey, Andy Moran.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

GRAND PICTURE HOUSE, WALSALL.

ALHAMBRA, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 12.15 p.m. for:—
The Mountfords, Rubani Trio, Jose De Moraes, Tom E. Hughes.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE THEATRE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

NEW EMPIRE CINEMA, NEWCASTLE.
Picture entertainments.

KING'S THEATRE, SOUTHSEA.
Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—
Arthur Cooke, Susie Marney, A. D. Robbins Rax and Dax, Will Van Allen, Herbert Cave.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
"The Better 'Ole."
(Managing Director, Richard Thornton.)

EMPIRE PALACE, S. SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
"Flying Colours."
(Managing Director, Richard Thornton.)

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
"General Post."
(Managing Director, Richard Thornton.)

EMPIRE, GATESHEAD.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Mark Sheridan and Co. in "Gay Paree."
(Managing Director, Richard Thornton.)

EMPIRE HALL, WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

HER MAJESTY'S T., WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

Artistes' Business must be absolutely free from vulgarity.

Special provision has been made at each Theatre for the exhibition of loose Photographs. Artistes are invited to supply these to the Manager on reaching the Theatre, and they will be returned in good condition at the end of the week.

Scenery and Properties must be fireproofed to approval of Local Authorities.

Applications for Engagements by Artistes or their Agents must be addressed to Head Office. State salaries required for (*a*) West End, (*b*) Suburban, (*c*) Large, and (*d*) Small Provincial Halls. A list of existing engagements must be enclosed. Artistes are requested to accredit only one Agent at the same time and to notify the Company immediately of any change of Agents.

Silence a polite negative.

Artistes desirous of submitting their Acts at private auditions should communicate with Head Office.

Matinées are held every Wednesday at the **Empire Theatre, South Shields,** at which new acts may be presented. Applications should be made to the Manager at the Theatre.

Engagements of Artistes are subject to cancellation if the following requirements are not observed:—

(1) Matter for bills and programmes, blocks, specimens of pictorials (if any) and a list of engagements with (*a*) in the case of singers, copies of the songs and patter, (*b*) in the case of sketch proprietors copies of the scripts as licensed and copies of the Lord Chamberlain's Licence, must be sent to Head Office three weeks at least before opening.
(2) Artistes must attend rehearsals, no deputies being accepted.
(3) **Press Matter and Photos.** Star Artistes, Feature, and Speciality Acts are requested to furnish the Press Publicity Department (Representative, Mr. Alfred Davies) with any interesting matter pertaining to their turn, with latest photos (non-copyright), for newspaper reproduction, three weeks before opening.

Important Notice to Artistes and Agents. When an Artiste or Act having previously played on the Moss' Empire Tour, is re-engaged for further dates, the contracts will be sent to the Agent who negotiated the last engagement, unless notice has been received from the Artiste that this is not desired.

Contracts and Orders. No contracts or orders for services or goods will be recognised unless upon an Official Form issued from Head Office and signed by the **Managing Director** or **Business Manager,** and the Company concerned may refuse payment for all services rendered or goods supplied except in accordance with this notice.

Invoices must be sent to the Theatre or Department to which goods are supplied, but monthly statements must be sent to Head Office.

The Company on whose behalf Contracts or Orders are signed is solely responsible for payment.

The Company will not hold itself responsible for loss or damage to Manuscripts, Songs, etc., submitted or sent to it for any purpose.

Mr. FRANK ALLEN, *Managing Director.*
Mr. A. P. DE COURVILLE, *Assistant to Managing Director and Booking Manager for the London Hippodrome.*
Mr. ERNEST WIGHTON, *Booking Manager for the Tour.*
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Performer Gold Medallist.
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ARTISTES' DEPARTMENT: Negotiations—A. D. DAVIS; Dates—LLEWELLYN JOHNS.
Address all communications to the Managing Director.

CALLS FOR DECEMBER 31, 1917.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Violet Vanbrugh & Co., in "The Woman on the Window Sill," Lydia Kyasht, Marguerite Scialtiel & Co., in "Maid of France," Grock, Sisters O'Hara, Wieland, Great and Good, Nevotti, Dalmere's Circus, Bioscope.

STOLL PICTURE THEATRE, KINGSWAY. (London Opera House.)
Pictures and Varieties.

THE NEW MIDDLESEX.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
"La Poupee."

THE HACKNEY EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Dare Austin and Co., Ida Long, George D'Albert, Roxy la Rocca, Donald and Carson, Alberto, Frank Maura, Bioscope.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMP.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Terriss and Romaine, Nina's Sea Lions, Jack Morrison, Foreman and Fannan, Elizabeth Newbould, Walker's Juveniles, Witter and Bunny, Bioscope.

THE CHISWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Campbell and Brady, Ethel Hook, Tom Stuart, Fred Milner, Delson and Good Trio, Bioscope.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Pasquali Brothers, Tom Clare, Arthur Aiston, Bi-Bo-Bi, O'Hanlon and Zambounies, Bioscope.

CHATHAM EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
La Bas Duo, Rosie Lloyd, The Biff Girls, Fred Barnes, Talbot O'Farrell, Bioscope.
And in association with the above—

BRISTOL HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Loupe and Ladise, Sylvia Van Dyck, Jack Lane, Tucker, Brazilian Trio, Bioscope.

BEDMINSTER HIPPO.
Pictures and Varieties.

THE LEICESTER PALACE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
"Air Birds," Dan Rolyat, Bioscope.

THE ARDWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Pat Lynch, Sergeant Brennan, Mikado Family, Brinn, Jane Croft, Miles-Stavordale Quintette, Butters and the Boob, Elvan Hedges, Bioscope.

MANCHESTER HIPPO.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Lewis Douglas, Bob Anderson, Veronica Brady, Spessell Bros. and Mack, Ritchie Troupe, Bioscope.
(Matinees Monday and Tuesday.)

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"Round the Map" Revue. Cast includes Violet Loraine, Nelson Keys and Alfred Lester. (Matinees every Day of "Bluebell in Fairyland.")

NOTE.—Artistes engaged at any of the above theatres should send photos for display in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at the end of the week.

NOTE.—All Sketches played at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and a copy of the licence, together with script as licensed, must be sent to the Stoll Offices at least 21 days before date of performance.

Arrangements for additional Theatres include—
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BAND PARTS REQUIRED.—14 different parts for English Orchestrations and 17 for Foreign Orchestrations. London Coliseum, London Opera House, and Manchester Hippodrome require 20 parts, including 3 first violins, extra 'cello and bass, and extra part for harp if not scored for.

STAGE DEPARTMENT.—Songs proposed to be sung should be submitted, and special stage requirements stated, in letters marked "Stage Department," by Artistes three weeks before opening.

ADVERTISING MATTER.—Bills, Blocks, Photographs, and specimens of Pictorials really representing the Act, should be forwarded three weeks before opening. If return of photographs required, please say so.

COARSENESS, VULGARITY, &c., is not allowed. The Licensing Authorities forbid this and the majority of the public resent it. This intimation is only rendered necessary by a very few Artistes.

ARTISTES' SCENERY AND PROPERTIES must be fireproofed or they cannot be brought into the Theatre. This is by order of the Licensing Authorities.

BUSINESS NOTICE OF GENERAL APPLICATION.—No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the above Theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form issued from the Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll or the Secretary, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases where goods are required at once suppliers must look to the individual placing the orders, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within 48 hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the above Head Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

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Calls for Monday, Dec. 31, 1917

LONDON PAVILION.
Rehearsal at 11.30.
E. C. Rolls' Production "Any Old Thing." Marie Lloyd.

OXFORD.
Rehearsal at 12.
C. B. Cochran Production "The Better 'Ole."

METROPOLITAN.
Rehearsal at 12.15.
Frances Letty's Co. in "Bobo." Norman Field. Nan Foster. Bioscope, &c.

CHELSEA.
Rehearsal at 12.
Joe Elvin & Co. in "Bogies." Frank & Vesta. Ko Ten Ichi Troupe. Tom & Marie Motramo. Hope Charteris. Francis & Alfred. Arthur Slater. Anna Hana. Frank H. Fox. Bioscope.

EUSTON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Marie Lloyd. The Marvellous Jees. Dnig Sen Bros. Leo Dryden. The Mayne Steppers. Anderson and Addison. Edie Gorf. Clown Argo. Harry Marvello. Bioscope.

WATFORD PALACE.
Rehearsal at 1.
Joe Collins' Pantomime "Babes in the Wood"

SOUTH LONDON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Rossi's Elephants. Fred Maitland and Co. Ford and Urma. Les Altos. Chris Van Bern. Wilfred Burnand. De Lilo Sisters. May Edney. Bioscope, &c.

EAST HAM.
Rehearsal at 11.
Walter Bentley presents "Odds On." Ray and Bunnie Kingston, Sisters Macarte. Bioscope.

TOTTENHAM.
Rehearsal at 2.
Moss' Empires, Ltd., present "Joy-Land."

BRIXTON EMPRESS.
Rehearsal at 12.
George French.
Terence Byron and Co. in "Simple Simon."
The Castilians.
Elsie Spain and Randall Jackson.
Jack Boston and Co.
Stella Spence and Harry Jocelyn.
Jubb and Jerome. Ada Cerito. Bessie Mason. Bioscope.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.
Rehearsal at 1.
"The Lads of the Village."

These Calls are communicated by the Management for the information of Artistes without prejudice.

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MARIE LOFTUS
SAM MAYO
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HANLON CHARLES TROUPE
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FRED RUSSELL
BETH TATE
LUCILLE BENSTEAD
CARRIE LAURIE'S NEW JUVENILES
ESTELLE ROSE
WILL LACEY
BERT WESTON

LEWISHAM HIPPODROME
6.30 and 9.
Tel. LEE GREEN 26.

MR. CHAS. GULLIVER'S Production,
"CINDERELLA."
Cast includes—
EDIE VENO
CORA GOFFIN
ALMA JONES
KATIE HUGHES
RENEE RALPH
AUSTIN RUDD
FRED. MAPLE

MATINEES THURSDAY and SATURDAY at 2.30.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE
6.30 and 9.
Tel. HAMMERSMITH 106.

ALBERT WHELAN
LIANE D'EVE
O'GORMAN BROS.
BERT TERRELL
FRED. SYLVESTER & CO.
RECORD QUARTETTE
THE RAINBOWS
BERT WESTON
and
MARY MAYFREN & CO. in
"THE WOMAN OF LOUVAIN."

CAMBERWELL PALACE
6.30 and 9.
Tel. HOP 1095.

ELLA SHIELDS
DALY & HEALY
MABEL MANSON
DUSTY RHODES
WINSTONE PLAYERS
ESTELLE ROSE
BETANCOURT
7 LEROYS
and
H. M. VERNON presents
"A DOUBLE ESCAPE."

GRAND PALACE, CLAPHAM JUNCTION
6.30 and 9.
Tel. BATTERSEA 88.

WM. HENSHALL presents
SCOTT & WHALEY in
'THE SUGAR BABY.'
Cast also includes:
JEAN ALISTONE
DICK WEBB
PENN HAMILTON
MOLLIE RIVERS
DAN O. SCOTT
TAKIO
NINA DUMAI

OLYMPIA, SHOREDITCH
6.30 and 9.
Tel. LONDON WALL 1628.

MR. CHAS. GULLIVER presents
"MOTHER GOOSE."
Cast includes—
ELISE CRAVEN
DAISY STRATTON
WOODHOUSE & WELLS
FATTY ROMA
GEO. GROGIE
JOHN McMAHON
GEO. RENEY

MATINEES THURSDAY and SATURDAY at 2.30.

ILFORD HIPPODROME
6.20 and 8.50.
Tel. ILFORD 716.

MR. CHAS. GULLIVER'S Production,
DICK WHITTINGTON
Cast includes—
LORNA & TOOTS POUNDS
TOM E. HOOD
JOHNNY SCHOFIELD
MARCELLE WILSON
WILL JOHNSON
HARRY BRISTOW
PHIL RALLIS DUO

MATINEES THURSDAY and SATURDAY at 2.30.

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME
6.30 and 8.50.
Tel. WOOLWICH 69.

GEO. MOZART
AMY EVANS
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HARTLEY WONDERS
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TORINO
JOE & WILLY
MAY LEVEY AND
MAUDE ASTON & CO. in
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MATINEE THURSDAY at 2.30

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GUS ELEN
HELEN MORAY
3 PRODIGIES
FULGORA
EVELYN MAY & PIANIST
PHIL KAUFFMAN
ISA WISE

ISLINGTON EMPIRE
6.30 and 9.
Tel. NORTH 571.

HETTY KING
WISH WYNNE
DUSTY RHODES
THE DAYS
PAGET TRIO
BORNEO GARDINER
DAN DOYLE
ZENORA

POPLAR HIPPODROME
6.30 and 9.
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HERBERT JAY presents
GEO. GREGORY in
'FRILLS & DRILLS.'
Cast also includes:
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DENIS O'NEIL
NELLIE DADE
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SHIRLEY & RANSOME
LILY LASSAH
TED SAUNDERS

WILLESDEN HIPPODROME
6.30 and 9.
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JACK & EVELYN
SAM MAYO
HAYMAN & FRANKLIN
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"PARKER'S APPEAL."
G. H. CHIRGWIN
EVA, BETTY & WESTELL GORDON
WARNER
TOPSY LEE
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6.30 and 9.
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PIMPLE (HIMSELF) in
"FATHER."
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NAN CHESTER
DOROTHY DEAN
DORIS MAY
TOM B. DAVIS
FRED ALLSOP
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London: Published by WILLIAM ROBERT WILSON, at 35, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C., and Printed by Messrs. Love & Malcomson, Ltd., at Dane-street, Holborn, London, W.C. 1. Wednesday, Dec. 26, 1917.

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